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EXPOSURE DANGER

GREGORY STEVENS/U.S. Army National Guard

Elements of 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, convoy to Hohenfels Training Area during an exercise in January.

Study finds thousands in military community poisoned by carbon monoxide over a decade

By NANCY MONTGOMERY
Stars and Stripes

Around 6,400 troops and their family members were poisoned by carbon monoxide in the past decade, a military health study has found.

Some 24 service members died from breathing the colorless, tasteless, odorless and deadly gas.

Most of the cases were deemed accidental, but around 11% of active duty service members intentionally harmed themselves and one case was ruled an assault, said the study published

last month in the Defense Health Agency's medical journal.

No details were provided for the assault case or the deaths.

Troops working in repair and engineering jobs accounted for more poisonings than those in other career fields.

"This finding warrants further analysis to examine the overall incidence rates of CO intoxication across occupations and highlights the importance of appropriate preventive measures for military personnel who repair or maintain vehicles," journal editor Cmdr. Shawn S. Clausen said in an email.

SEE EXPOSURE ON PAGE 7



RYNE ARCIAGA/U.S. Navy

Petty Officer 2nd Class Ilya Bauer welds a crack on an exhaust pipe of a CH-53E Super Stallion aboard the Wasp-class amphibious assault ship USS Kearsarge in June.

US, S. Korea mull curtailed training due to coronavirus

By CAITLIN M. KENNEY
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — U.S. and South Korean forces are looking to curtail upcoming training exercises out of growing fears about the spread of the coronavirus, the defense leaders for both countries said Monday.

Army Gen. Robert Abrams, commander of U.S. Forces Korea and Gen. Park Han-ki, chairman of the South Korean joint chiefs of staff, "are looking at scaling back the command post training due to concerns about the coronavirus," Defense Secretary Mark Esper said during a Pentagon news conference with South Korean Defense Minister Jeong Kyeong-doo.

On Sunday, 13 Republic of Korea soldiers were diagnosed with coronavirus, Jeong said.

"We do regard this situation as a serious one," he said.

Travel for South Korean service members has been limited, affecting normal military training and vacation leave, Jeong said.

The semi-annual joint command post exercises between the U.S. and South Korea, with the next happening in spring, have already been limited during the past year as part of an attempt by President Donald Trump's administration to persuade North Korea to give up its nuclear weapons.

SEE TRAINING ON PAGE 4

■ US base in S. Korea lists sites visited by woman who tested positive ■ Italy sees 27% more virus cases

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BUSINESS/WEATHER

Virus fear causes airline, cruise stocks to fall

BY DAVID KOENIG
Associated Press

The stocks of American Air-lines and several cruise lines were among the worst performers in the Standard & Poor's 500 index Monday, as investors fret that the new coronavirus could take hold outside China and further disrupt international travel.

Shares of Norwegian Cruise Line Holdings Ltd., Carnival Corp. and Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd. fell about 9%. American

Airlines Group Inc. shed 8.5%, and Delta Air Lines Inc. and on-line travel agency Expedia Group Inc. fell more than 6%.

After the market closed, United Airlines said it was withdrawing its estimate issued just last month of its full-year 2020 earnings because of uncertainty around how long the outbreak will last. The airline stood by its first-quarter estimates, saying that a drop in fuel prices and a new credit card deal will offset lost revenue.

United said that if the virus

runs its course by mid-May and travel on trans-Pacific routes returns to normal over five months, the airline could still hit its goal of 2020 earnings between \$11 and \$13 per share.

Before United's news, CFRA Research lowered its investment rating on United Airlines Holdings Inc. to "hold" from "buy." The firm says United is even more dependent on international revenue than American or Delta. United's stock, however, ended down a relatively modest 3.3%.

EXCHANGE RATES

	Military rate	Commercial rates
Euro (cents) (Feb. 26)	\$1.1170	0.7889
Dollar (cents) (Feb. 26)	€0.8889	0.9781
British pound (Feb. 26)	\$1.33	31.74
Japanese yen (Feb. 26)	109.00	61.286
South Korean won (Feb. 26)	1,180.00	(Market exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance for Japan, South Korea, Germany, France, Italy, Spain and the United Kingdom. For nonlocal currency exchange rates (i.e., purchasing British pounds in Germany), check with local military banking facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are foreign currencies to U.S. dollars, except for the euro, which is represented in dollars-to-pound, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3770	
British pound	\$1.2951	
Chinese yuan (Renminbi)	0.1737	
China (Yuan)	7,0771	
Denmark (Krone)	6.8939	
Egypt (Pound)	15.5615	
Egypt (Pound)	\$1.0873	0.7238
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7,9700	
Hungary (Forint)	31.24	
Iceland (Króna)	24.25	
Japan (Yen)	110.39	
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.3064	
Norway (Krone)	9,3816	
Pakistan (Rupee)	14.96	
Poland (Złoty)	3.96	
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7521	
Singapore (Dollar)	1.3983	
South Korea (Won)	1,214.09	1.83

INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	4.75
Discount rate	2.25
Federal funds market rate	1.58
3-month bill	1.51
30-year bond	1.83

WEATHER OUTLOOK

WEDNESDAY IN THE MIDDLE EAST



WEDNESDAY IN EUROPE



THURSDAY IN THE PACIFIC



The weather is provided by the American Forces Network Weather Center, 2nd Weather Squadron at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb.

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PACIFIC

Soviet symbols in the skies at Cope North drill

By SETH ROBSON
Stars and Stripes

ANDERSEN AIR FORCE BASE, Guam — Card carrying communists may have once dreamed of the day when the hammer and sickle would be worn proudly by U.S. airmen.

That dream was a reality at this month's Cope North exercise on Guam, with members of the 18th Aggressor Squadron rocking red and black Soviet-style patches in the skies over the Northern Marianas.

The squadron brought a dozen camouflaged F-16 Fighting Falcons from their home at Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska, to role-play as the enemy during the drills.

This year's exercise involves more than 100 aircraft and 2,100 military personnel from the United States, Japan and Australia honing skills they'll need to engage a well-equipped enemy force.

Role-playing as the enemy during aerial combat is the aggressors' mission, said one of their pilots, Maj. Melvin "Heist" Murphrey, 32, of Trenton, N.C.

The 18th is one of two aggressor squadrons in the Air Force charged with studying tactics used by potential adversaries and replicating them during

exercises.

"Our role is to train partners and coalition forces and the U.S. Air Force," Murphrey said as he stood on a ramp at Andersen ahead of a Cope North drill involving 60 aircraft last Wednesday.

A patch on his shoulder incorporated the communist hammer-and-sickle logo along with an F-16 soaring over a coconut tree and the words "Hardship Tour."

The joke is that the aggressors were giving up sub-zero conditions in Alaska to train in the tropics, Murphrey said.

Guam's sunny weather might help pilots work on their suntans, but the humidity is a challenge for maintainers used to Alaska's drier conditions.

It's meant a little extra tinkering with some of the planes' electrical systems, according to another on the hardship tour, Master Sgt. Stephanie Spiegel, 39, of North Pole, Alaska, who oversees civilian contractors who maintain the aggressors' F-16s.

The Cope North exercise began Feb. 12 and concludes Friday. It's aim is to improve the skills of U.S., Australian and Japanese forces and to increase combat readiness in the region, officials said.

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PHOTOS BY SETH ROBSON/Stars and Stripes

Maj. Melvin Murphrey, 32, of Trenton, N.C., speaks about the Alaska-based 18th Aggressor Squadron during Cope North drills at Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, on Feb. 19.



The 18th Aggressor Squadron out of Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska, is wearing Soviet-inspired "hardship tour" patches during Cope North drills.



An F-16 Fighting Falcon from the Alaska-based 18th Aggressor Squadron takes off at Andersen Air Force Base, Guam.

Okinawa Marine gets service's highest award for noncombat valor

By MATTHEW M. BURKE
Stars and Stripes

CAMP FOSTER, Okinawa — An Okinawa Marine who saved a drowning pregnant woman caught in a rip current in 2018 was awarded the service's highest award for valor in a noncombat situation.

Maj. William Easter received the Navy and Marine Corps Medal from III Marine Expeditionary Force commander Lt. Gen. H. Stacy Clardy III in a ceremony Feb. 14 at unit headquarters aboard Camp Courtney, a Marine Corps statement said.

Easter, the III MEF theater security cooperation officer from Beaufort, S.C., was also recognized for his heroism by the Japanese mayor of Chatan in January 2019.

"I think I'm just as brave as anybody else in the military," Easter said in the statement. "I was just

the right person at the right time. I'm certain there are any number of people here, who are also the right people, and would have done the same thing."

On the afternoon of Dec. 8, 2018, Easter was preparing for a run on the Okinawa seawall near American Village when he heard cries for help coming from the shore, he told Stars and Stripes last year. An exhausted man had made it back to shore after snorkeling but his pregnant wife — an American in her 20s — had been swept out and was approximately a quarter mile from land.

The man said he was too exhausted to swim out to her.

Easter instructed one bystander to call Japan's equivalent of 911 and another to find a flotation device, he and Japanese officials said.

"I could see her in the distance, a little head bobbing there in the water," he told Stripes last year.

"I looked at it and I said, 'Wow, that is not a short swim. You're not going to do that very easily.'"

Easter then swam the approximately 300 yards out to the woman.

She was exhausted by the time he arrived, so he got her up on the orange, circular life-preserved he carried. Then he treaded water for approximately 30 minutes while he waited for emergency services.

Chatan fire officials arrived on personal watercraft and plucked Easter and the woman from the sea, she said.

"She could have drowned," Nira Fire Chief Morikatsu Saki-hara said during the ceremony honoring Easter at Chatan Mayor Masaharu Nogumi's office on Jan. 22, 2019.

Easter told Nogumi that his actions came with being a Marine.

"When you see that someone needs help, you go out and you compounded the potential tragedy."



HANNAH HALL/U.S. Marine Corps

Marine Maj. William Easter, right, receives the Navy and Marine Corps Medal from III Marine Expeditionary Force commander Lt. Gen. H. Stacy Clardy at Camp Courtney, Okinawa, on Feb. 14.

do it," he said. "You don't think about it."

Easter's actions, Clardy said, likely saved multiple lives that day. If he hadn't gone in, others may have attempted to save the woman, which could have compounded the potential tragedy.

"He was risking his own life," Clardy said in the statement. "This was no small act and I am proud to present him with this award."

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VIRUS OUTBREAK

S. Korea base tells places ill widow visited

BY KIM GAMEL
Stars and Stripes

SEOUL, South Korea — U.S. military officials published the on-base sites visited by a woman who tested positive for the new coronavirus, and said Tuesday that more than 50 people in her apartment complex had been quarantined.

The details about the first confirmed case linked to U.S. Forces Korea emerged as the Atlanta-based Centers for Disease Control and Prevention urged travelers to avoid nonessential travel to South Korea by issuing its highest warning at level 3.

That put the U.S. allied nation on a similar footing as China, where COVID-19 first appeared in December, then killed more than 2,600 people on the mainland and spread to dozens of countries. However, the State Department did not ban travel to the divided peninsula as it has done for China.

South Korea, a nation of 50 million people, has seen the number of infections spike over the past week from about 30 on Feb. 17 to 977 cases and 11 deaths on Tuesday, according to the Yonhap News Agency.

USFK said Monday that it had been informed by South Korean health authorities that the widow of a retired soldier living in the southeastern city of Daegu had tested positive for the virus, prompting it to raise an internal alert level from moderate to high.

Military bases across the divided peninsula, including the main headquarters base Camp Humphreys, reduced the number of access gates open on Tuesday to facilitate health screening measures including questions about possible exposure to the virus and temperature checks.

Officials also urged service members, their families and civilian employees to avoid nonessential travel off base.

Most of South Korea's nearly 1,000 confirmed cases have been in Daegu and surrounding areas due to an outbreak that is believed to have spread from a church last week. The local U.S. military community of about 9,000 people has been essentially locked down in a bid to keep the virus at bay.

The woman who was infected was the 61-year-old widow of a retired soldier who had base access, garrison commander Col. Edward Ballance said.

The garrison tracked her movements with electrical records and closed circuit TV footage after

Air, rail travel halted for DODEA sports teams in Japan. [Page 22](#)

South Korea's Center for Disease Control and Prevention alerted U.S. Forces Korea that she had been tested for the virus on Feb. 22 and was confirmed to have it two days later.

A detailed timeline assembled from electronic records and closed circuit video footage showed she had visited a credit union on Camp Henry; and the post exchange and the commissary on Camp Walker over a period of four days — Feb. 10, 11, 12 and 15.

The locations were published to enable other residents to check if they had any reason to be worried.

Anybody who feels sick was encouraged to contact the U.S. or South Korean hotlines set up to deal with rising concern about the spread of the virus.

"We watched her movements on camera and saw the people she came in contact with," Ballance said, adding they had been sent home. "The risk is very low that the disease was spread during those short interactions."

"None of those people have exhibited any symptoms, so we think we're safe," he said.

The garrison also was able to do COVID-19 tests on post for the first time Monday, although the kits had to be processed at South Korean facilities, Ballance said. All came back negative, including somebody who lived at the woman's apartment complex and had been sick, he added.

Meanwhile, the military stepped up efforts to prevent any further contamination of the community by reducing gate access and closing schools and other activities.

Service members based at Camp Humphreys also were banned from off-base social activities as the command implemented its second-highest alert status to health protection condition Charlie.

"We will not and we can't impose the same things on dependents and family members," Humphreys garrison commander Col. Michael Tremblay said Tuesday. "We highly recommend that they follow along with the same guidelines in order to mitigate any potential risk, but we certainly can't direct that in any way, shape or form."

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Above: Workers wearing protective gear spray disinfectant as a precaution against the new coronavirus at Seoul Railway Station in Seoul, South Korea, on Tuesday. Left: A worker stacks plastic buckets containing medical waste from coronavirus patients at a medical center in Daegu, South Korea.

PHOTOS BY LEE MOON-RYUL, NEWS1/AP

Coronavirus: Facts, prevention, care

Stars and Stripes

Here's what you need to know about the new coronavirus, also known as COVID-19, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

■ How does it spread?

Like influenza, COVID-19 is spread person-to-person by infected people who pass the virus through droplets they produce while coughing and sneezing. Others are infected by inhaling or otherwise ingesting those droplets. Less frequently, according to experts, the virus may also spread by someone touching a contaminated surface and then touching his or her face.

■ What are the symptoms?

Symptoms are described as "flu-like" and include coughing, sneezing and shortness of breath. They may appear anywhere between two and 14 days after infection.

■ How can I prevent infection?

There is no vaccine for the new coronavirus. The CDC suggests taking preventative actions such as frequent hand-washing for at least 20 seconds and covering mouths and noses while coughing and sneezing. If using hand sanitizer, make sure it is at least 60% alcohol.

Though it will not help with COVID-19, the CDC also recommends getting a flu shot to prevent influenza.

■ What if I suspect I've been infected?

Call ahead to a hospital and tell medical staff about any recent travels and symptoms. Wear a mask and avoid contact with others to diminish the risk of spreading the virus further. Wash your hands immediately after coughing or sneezing and regularly clean "high-touch" surfaces such as doorknobs and countertops.

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Training: Exercises may be cut back due to virus

FROM FRONT PAGE

North Korea leader Kim Jong Un has said the joint exercises could negatively affect the negotiations.

"Normal planning has been underway for quite some time. But at the same time, everyone is aware that the [coronavirus] situation in the Republic of Korea

grows serious by the day," Jeong said about the combined exercise through a translator, adding he believed Abrams and Park will make the right decision about the combined training through their close coordination.

While the decision is being made by the military leadership, "We'll remain fully ready to deal

with any threats that we might face together," Esper said.

If there is any change to the training, Jeong said they will consider ways to make certain the combined U.S.-South Korean defense posture stays robust.

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VIRUS OUTBREAK

Further closures at US bases in Europe possible

By JOHN VANDIVER
Stars and Stripes

STUTTGART, Germany — Some Army facilities in Italy could be shuttered beyond March 1 due to concerns related to the coronavirus, which the military expects will also have implications for troops in Germany, U.S. European Command's top officer, Air Force Gen. Tod Wolters, told lawmakers Tuesday.

In Vicenza, Italy, the Army has closed on-base schools, child care centers, gyms and clinics after a spike in coronavirus cases in the broader region. Military personnel also have been told not to travel to areas where clusters of confirmed cases have emerged.

Wolters said that there was a "50-50" possibility that the closures in Vicenza would be extended, in response to questions by Sen. Tom Cotton, R-Ark., who cited Stars and Stripes reporting at the base.

The military is also prepared to execute a coronavirus prevention

plan in Germany, which is home to tens of thousands of U.S. service members and their families. "We're anticipating an increase in the number of cases in Germany," Wolters told the Senate Armed Services Committee on Tuesday.

The military overseas has been grappling with the rapid spread of coronavirus, particularly in South Korea, where a surge of cases has forced base access and troop movement restrictions. As cases increase in Europe, EUCOM officials have said command medical teams are closely monitoring for potential threats.

Wolters was in Washington to testify on EUCOM's piece of the Pentagon's 2021 budget request and the command's role in countering Russia and China.

Wolters said he would like more support in countering Russia at sea, where he said Moscow's submarine activity increased by 50% in 2019. EUCOM is generally effective at tracking Russian



JOE GROMELSKI/Stars and Stripes

Air Force Gen. Tod Wolters, head of U.S. European Command, testifies before the Senate Armed Services Committee on Tuesday.

submarines, but "not 100% of the time," he said.

Wolters called for two more Navy destroyers to be based at Rota, Spain. Past EUCOM commanders also have sought similar ship increases. But recent infrastructure work at the Navy's Rota base now makes it possible, Wolters said.

China's inroads into European infrastructure are also a concern, Wolters said. The Pentagon has warned allies to steer clear of China's 5G technology, which it says poses an intelligence threat. Wolters also said he is worried about China's investment in ports all over Europe, where it controls 10% of shipping rights in and out of the Continent.

"Those are daunting figures that should lead one to believe that we need to continue to be vigilant with respect to seaport equities," Wolters said.

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Italy sees 27% more virus cases

Associated Press

ROME — Italy reported a 27% increase in the number of coronavirus cases Tuesday and an infected doctor forced a hotel to be quarantined in Spain's Canary Islands, evidence that the epicenter of the outbreak in Europe is spreading with travelers to and from the afflicted north.

Premier Giuseppe Conte defended the measures Italy has taken to contain the outbreak and predicted a stabilizing of numbers soon, but he acknowledged that the rise in cases — the most outside Asia — was "worrysome."

"Obviously I can't say I'm not worried because I don't want anyone to think we're underestimating this emergency," he said before a meeting with a visiting World Health Organization mission. "But we trust that with the measures we've implemented there will be a containing effect in the coming days."

Italy has closed schools, museums and theaters in the two regions where clusters have formed and troops are enforcing quarantines around 10 towns in Lombardy and the epicenter of the Veneto cluster, Vu'Euganeo.

But Italy hasn't yet identified the source of the outbreak and overnight reported a 27% increase in positive cases from 222 to 283, including in regions outside the north. Seven people have



CLAUDIO FURLAN, LAPRESSE/AP

Italian army soldiers check transit to and from the cordoned areas near the northern town of Turano Lodigiano on Tuesday. Civil protection officials on Tuesday reported a large jump of coronavirus cases in the country, from 222 to 283.

died, all of them elderly, suffering from other ailments, or both.

The southern island of Sicily reported its first positive case from a woman vacationing from Bergamo, in Lombardy. Two cases were also reported in Tuscany, well south of the epicenter.

Croatia, meanwhile, confirmed its first case — in a man who had been to Milan, the capital of Lombardy. And Austria confirmed two cases in a couple who traveled from Bergamo to their home

in Innsbruck last Friday.

In the Canary Islands, a doctor from the north tested positive in a Tenerife clinic and was placed in isolation. The H10 Adeje Palace hotel where he was staying was locked down, and its 1,000 tourists prevented from leaving, according to Spanish news media and officials in Adeje. The Canary Islands, 60 miles west of the African coast, is a popular vacation destination that attracts Europeans year-round.

DODEA's Bahrain School closes over virus concerns

By JOSHUA KARSTEN
Stars and Stripes

MANAMA, Bahrain — Military students at the Bahrain School have been told to stay home the rest of the week, following the country's first confirmed coronavirus case and several others reported at the island kingdom's airport.

School officials said the move, announced Tuesday evening via text message and email, was a precautionary measure.

"We are working closely with our military and host nation partners to closely monitor the situation," the statement said. "All decisions will be made with the health of our staff, students and community in mind."

Bahrain is home to the Navy's 5th Fleet headquarters and the largest concentration of deployed service members and their families in the Middle East.

Bahrain's Health Ministry said that all public schools will be closed for the next two weeks as "precautionary measures taken to contain the spread of the Coro-

navirus (COVID-19) among individuals who have visited Iran, before the country announced it was facing a COVID-19 pandemic," the statement said.

Bahrain officials said 17 travelers have tested positive for the virus at Bahrain International Airport, with the travelers coming from Saudi Arabia, Iran and the United Arab Emirates.

The travelers were immediately quarantined and taken to health centers for treatment. Those accompanying infected travelers were also quarantined, the official Bahrain News Agency reported Tuesday.

Base school officials said more guidance will be released as it becomes available. Naval Forces Central Command said Monday that service members are already subject to 14-day "in-house" quarantines and testing when coming to Bahrain from mainland China, Hong Kong, Singapore, Thailand, Malaysia and South Korea. Personnel leave to those countries is also restricted.

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Trump: Virus 'very well under control' in US

Associated Press

NEW DELHI — President Donald Trump sought Tuesday to minimize fears about coronavirus spreading rampantly throughout the U.S., saying the situation is "very well under control in our country."

At the same time, the Trump administration on Monday asked Congress for an additional \$2.5 billion to prepare in case of a widespread outbreak and to assist other nations.

"We have very few people with it," the president said at a news conference in India.

Trump referenced 14 Americans who tested positive for coronavirus and were among hundreds of U.S. citizens recently evacuated from a cruise ship off Japan and brought to U.S. facilities. He said those individuals were placed into quarantine and "we think they'll be in very good shape very, very soon."

Earlier Tuesday, Trump said he wants the additional \$2.5 billion to shore up defenses "in case something should happen" and to help other countries.

The White House budget office said the funding would be used for vaccine development, treatment and protective equipment, but Democrats immediately slammed the request as insufficient.

The funding request released Monday evening came as key government accounts were running low. The Department of Health and Human Services had already tapped into an emergency infectious disease rapid response fund and was seeking to transfer more than \$130 million from other HHS accounts to combat the virus.

The administration is request-

ing \$1.25 billion in new funding and wants to transfer \$535 million from an Ebola preparedness account that's been a top priority of Democrats.

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MILITARY

US forces hit ISIS during partial truce with Taliban

BY J.P. LAWRENCE
Stars and Stripes

KABUL, Afghanistan — The U.S. military launched two air-strikes against Islamic State fighters in Afghanistan on Tuesday, midway through a weeklong partial truce with the Taliban.

The airstrikes killed four Islamic State fighters in Kunar province, said Col. Sonny

Leggett, spokesman for U.S. Forces-Afghanistan.

"We continue to eliminate ISIS terrorists wherever they hide to protect Afghanistan while honoring U.S.-Afghan-Taliban agreement to reduce the violence," Leggett said on Twitter.

An ISIS shadow deputy governor and a military leader are among the dead, said Abdul Ghani Musamim, spokesman for

the governor of Kunar, located in eastern Afghanistan.

The strikes did not involve Afghan forces, said Fawad Aman, deputy spokesman for the Afghan Defense Ministry.

The U.S., the Taliban and the Afghan government are midway through a seven-day partial truce, termed by the parties as an agreement for a reduction in violence.

Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid said last week that the group would refrain from attacking provincial capitals, as well as Afghan and U.S. military bases, but insinuated that attacking checkpoints was not off-limits.

If violence in the country drops significantly, as it has during the initial days of the truce, U.S. and Taliban officials are expected to sign a broader deal Saturday.

That is expected to lead to talks among the insurgents, the Afghan government and other Afghan stakeholders to address issues such as how to integrate the Taliban into the government and military after more than 18 years of war.

Zubair Babakarkhai contributed to this report.
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DODEA students test and race underwater robots

BY THERON GODBOLD
Stars and Stripes

YOKOSUKA NAVAL BASE, Japan — Students recently built, tested and fielded a fleet of underwater robots for a competition marking National Engineering Week at the home of the Navy's 7th Fleet south of Tokyo.

"We want to enhance STEM, and we have new science standards this year," said Quiana Obeng, assistant principal of the Department of Defense Education Activity's Nile C. Kinnick High School, while watching remotely operated robotic vehicles navigate a submerged obstacle course at Yokosuka's Purdy Pool. "This gives real-world standards to what they are taught in the classroom."

STEM is an acronym for science, technology, engineering and mathematics — subjects often lumped together as educational priorities.

Four teams of students from Kinnick and Yokosuka Middle School — with assistance from Naval Facilities Engineering Command volunteers and the Navy dive locker — built four remotely operated underwater vehicles, or ROVs.



Students celebrate as their remotely operated underwater vehicle completes the final hurdle during a robotics challenge at Yokosuka Naval Base, Japan, on Friday.

The teams competed to see which ROV could finish the obstacle course first. Students on the winning team received \$10 gift cards for the Navy Exchange donated by the middle school's

National Junior Honor Society.

Students worked after school over the course of three days to build and test the ROV kits, which were manufactured by Seaperch, a company

that produces robotic projects for the purposes of teaching. At a cost of \$180 per Seaperch unit, the school budget is the only thing keeping the ROV competition from becoming an annual



One of the remotely operated underwater vehicles built by students at Yokosuka.

event, said Angela Lewis, a biology and robotics club teacher. She said that the school is looking for grants and fundraisers to help pay for future projects.

Many of the parts were scrounged together by students who were very interested in making the ROVs, she added.

"This first event was thrown together, but the kids really wanted to do it," Lewis said. "Everything just lined up in the end to make things happen."

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American honored by France for WWII exploits, PTSD work dies at 94

BY CHAD GARLAND
Stars and Stripes

Stephen J. Weiss, a World War II soldier who France honored for his service behind enemy lines, has died. He was 94.

Earlier this month, Weiss traveled to Paris for a ceremony at the Arc de Triomphe honoring the veterans of the Office of Strategic Services, a precursor to the CIA, with which he briefly served during the war.

A commander in France's distinguished Legion of Honor who earned two Croix de Guerre, the French Resistance Medal and a U.S. Bronze Star, Weiss died last week in his London apartment after returning from the trip, his family said Monday in an email to friends.

It was "a final trip that is both iconic and poetic knowing the history of his relationship with France," the family said in the email, which was titled "We'll

meet again," something Weiss was fond of saying.

A lead infantry scout during the war, he began a late-in-life career as an academic researching and lecturing on war and psychological trauma. He spoke frankly of his own struggles to overcome what is now known as post-traumatic stress disorder.

He credited treatment for "a major turnaround" in his life and wrote of his wartime experiences in a 2011 autobiography re-released last year under the title "The Invisible Scars of War." His was also one of three stories detailed in the 2013 book "The De-

scuters" by Charles Glass.

Weiss saw brutal fighting in Italy with the 36th Infantry Division, then landed in southern France in August 1944 as part of an operation that had originally been planned to coincide with the D-Day landings in Normandy.

After being separated from his unit, he and other soldiers assisted the French Resistance in a campaign to disrupt German operations before being recruited to join a team of OSS commandos.

He volunteered to stay but was eventually forced to return to his infantry unit after a couple months.

While behind German lines, he'd been reported missing in action. Two telegrams sent to notify his family must have confirmed his father's worse fears after the younger Weiss had "blackmailed" him into signing paperwork to let him enlist at 17, he said.

"He didn't deserve that," Weiss said, recalling that his father,

a World War I veteran who had been gassed and wounded in combat, had tried to warn his son about the death and psychological trauma of combat.

After finding one of the MIA telegrams recently, he reflected on his wartime experience in an email which his family quoted in the death announcement.

"I'm started at how close I came to death, to my own demise and oblivion," Weiss wrote. "My sergeant lies dead in a foreign field for the 75 years I've survived, haphazardly thinking things over. His life and others like him remain heartbreakingly young forever. Cheated out of what I gained."

After the war, he worked in music and television in Hollywood, and married accomplished ballet dancer and instructor Rosemary Valaire, with whom he had three children before their 1982 divorce. Valaire died in 1999.

Weiss earned a master's de-

gree in clinical psychology in the 1970s and ran a therapy practice for many years before returning to school in the 1990s to pursue a second master's degree from King's College London, then a doctorate, when he was in his 60s. The university named him a fellow last year.

A memorial service will be planned, the family said.

His most recent trip to France came at the invitation of Meredith Wheeler, an American living in Lautrec who has written about the instrumental role of OSS operations during WWII.

She and other American expatriates waving U.S. flags greeted a surprised Weiss at Paris Gare du Nord train station on Feb. 13 in what she described later as a "flash mob of gratitude and goodwill."

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NATION

Crackdown begins on immigrants who use social services

BY ANITA SNOW
Associated Press

PHOENIX — Pastor Antonio Velasquez says that before the Trump administration announced a crackdown on immigrants using government social services, people lined up before sunrise outside a state office in a largely Latino Phoenix neighborhood to sign up for food stamps and Medicaid.

No more.

"You had to arrive at 3 in the morning, and it might take you until the end of the day," he said, pointing behind the office in the Maryvale neighborhood to show how long the lines got.

But no one lined up one recent weekday morning, and there were just a handful of people inside.

With new rules taking effect Monday that disqualify more people from green cards if they use government benefits, droves of immigrants, including citizens and legal residents, have dropped social services they or their children may be entitled to if fear they will be kicked out of the U.S., said Velasquez and other advocates.

Advocates around the U.S. gathered Monday to discuss and criticize the policy.

Participants at a New York City roundtable said that in anticipation of the change, neighborhoods with higher immigrant populations had seen enrollment declines in the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children, known as WIC. They also urged immigrants to get legal advice on how they may be affected.

Bethany Li, of Greater Boston Legal Services, said Chinese families are passing on WIC benefits not covered by the new rules.

The guidelines that aim to determine whether immigrants seeking legal residency may become a government burden are part of the Trump administration's broader effort to reduce immigration, particularly among poor people.

The rules that critics say amount to a "wealth test" were set to take effect in October but were delayed by legal challenges alleging a violation of due process under the U.S. Constitution. The Supreme Court last month cleared the way for the Trump administration to move forward while the rules were litigated in the courts.

A 5-4 vote Friday by the high court sided with the Trump administration by lifting a last injunction covering just Illinois, giving White House adviser Stephen Miller and other hardliners a resounding win in one of their boldest attempts to limit legal immigration.

Justice Sonia Sotomayor issued a blistering dissent, criticizing the

'People are very scared about the rules. The sad thing is that they even drop the services their U.S. citizen kids qualify for.'

Stephanie Santiago
Mountain Park Health Center

administration for quickly turning to the Supreme Court after facing losses in lower courts and suggesting that her conservative colleagues handled the litigation inconsistently in their desire to give Trump a victory.

White House press secretary Stephanie Grisham said Saturday that the change will "reestablish the fundamental legal principle that newcomers to our society should be financially self-reliant and not dependent on the largess of United States taxpayers."

Federal law already requires those seeking permanent residency or legal status to prove they will not be a burden to the U.S. — a "public charge" in government lingo. But the new rules include a wider range of programs that could disqualify them, including using Medicaid, food stamps and housing vouchers.

Julia Gelatt, a senior policy analyst with the nonprofit Migration Policy Institute in Washington, said the guidelines are so complicated that there have even been reports of parents dropping their kids' free school lunches, which are not affected.

Gelatt noted that the rules apply only to social services used after Monday and do not affect citizens or most green card holders. Refugees vetted by federal agencies before their arrival, as well as people who obtain asylum, are not affected.

The guidelines don't apply to many programs for children and pregnant and postnatal women, including Head Start early childhood education and WIC.

Nevertheless, Stephanie Santiago, who manages two Phoenix-area clinics for the nonprofit Mountain Park Health Center, said during the last three months of 2019 she suddenly saw scores of immigrants drop those and other benefits.

"People are very scared about the rules," Santiago said. "The sad thing is that they even drop the services their U.S. citizen kids qualify for. A lot of these kids are going to school sick or their parents are paying out of pocket for services they should get for free."



PHOTOS BY MATTHEW HINTON/AP

Riders throw beads from a float with the theme "Beastly Kingdoms" in the Krewe of Orpheus parade on Napoleon Avenue during Mardi Gras celebrations in New Orleans on Monday.

After two tragedies, New Orleans celebrates end of Carnival season

BY REBECCA SANTANA
AND JANET McCONAUGHEY
Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — Revelers dressed in costumes and reaching for beads thrown from floats took to the streets as Carnival season reached its peak, their celebration tinged with grief after two paradesgoers in New Orleans were hit and killed by floats in the run-up to Fat Tuesday.

In the Central City neighborhood, dozens of members of the Zulu parade marched down the street in their costumes followed by a marching band to kick off the day's parades. Thousands of people lined the streets, dressed in the Mardi Gras colors of purple, green, and gold, standing or sitting in lawn chairs, eating food and talking to friends and neighbors.

In front of Sadie's Beauty Salon on Jackson Avenue, Keitra Boutant stood with her daughter.

When asked if she had any concerns about safety in light of the two people who died after getting hit by floats, she said she was always worried about that.

"That has always been my No. 1 rule. Don't run up to the floats," she said while keeping an eagle eye on her daughter.

Carnival season began Jan. 6 and ends Fat Tuesday after weeks of Mardi Gras parades, balls and merriment. This season's festivities have been marred by the deaths of the two people killed at separate New Orleans-area parades in recent days.

Last Wednesday as thousands of people gathered to watch the all-female Krewe of Nyx parade, a woman was killed after being struck by a float. Witnesses told news outlets Geraldine Carroumache, 58, of New Orleans tried



Actor Bryan Cranston, right, poses for a picture with a member of the Marine Corps band as he acts as the celebrity monarch of the Krewe of Orpheus.

to cross between two parts of a tandem float and tripped over a hitch connecting the sections. Tandem floats are multiple floats pulled by one tractor.

Saturday night during the Endymion parade — one of the biggest and glitziest parades every year — a man out watching on Canal Street was hit and killed by a float, also a tandem. He was identified as Joseph Sampson, 58, of New Orleans.

Following the deaths, the city announced a ban on tandem floats for the rest of the season. Police Superintendent Shaun Ferguson said Monday he's not blaming the parade groups or tandem floats for the deaths. But he stood by his decision to bar the multi-part floats for the last few days of the parade season. He said representatives from parade krewes, police and city officials will meet this week or next to discuss safety issues surrounding the parades.

Mardi Gras season is usually a time of frivolity and fun as thousands of people swarm into the streets of New Orleans and other cities and towns in southern Louisiana and the Gulf Coast. Theirs is an annual tradition of watching parades, partying and hanging out with family and friends.

The festivities got an early start on Fat Tuesday.

Families gathered to watch the Zulu Social Aid & Pleasure Club parade on the main route down St. Charles Avenue, followed by the Rex Parade and then two more parades. In the French Quarter, people from all walks of life dress up in elaborate costumes and take to the streets to see and be seen.

Once the parades are over, the action will shift to the French Quarter's more raucous Bourbon Street.

Then comes Ash Wednesday, which marks the beginning of Lent and a time for many Christians to fast and reflect ahead of Easter.

NATION

Sanders' praise for communists roils race

BY GRIFF WITTE

The Washington Post

The mayor of tiny Burlington, Vt., was back from Nicaragua and eager to share the good news.

The country's Soviet-backed government — forged via armed rebellion — was cutting infant mortality, reducing illiteracy and redistributing land to peasant farmers. Its Sandinista leaders, branded terrorists by the United States government, impressed him with "their intelligence and their sincerity."

Three years later, Bernie Sanders was fresh off the plane from Moscow, reveling in the beauty of the land and the contentedness of the people.

And a year after that, he returned from Cuba having tapped into a revolutionary spirit "far deeper and more profound than I understood it to be."

With Sanders now surging to the top of the Democratic presidential field, those three-decade-old impressions introduced a volatile new element in the race Monday as rivals reacted to Sanders' decision to defend his remarks, not disclaim them.

Asked about his favorable review of Fidel Castro's Cuba in a "60 Minutes" interview that aired on CBS on Sunday night, Sanders said that the communist leader deserved criticism for "the authoritarian nature" of his government — as well as praise where it was due, including for "a massive literacy program."

"Is that a bad thing? Even though Fidel Castro did it?" he asked.

The comments offered instant fodder for opponents who had already been sharing the old clips, and highlighted the risk to a candidate with a track record of sympathy for communist and socialist governments that is unlike any other recent Democratic nominee.

Rivals seized on the brand-new video to portray the senator from Vermont as naïve — a possible preview of attack lines in Tuesday night's debate, and of the barage Sanders is likely to endure in



CCTV.org

Then-Mayor of Burlington, Vt., Bernie Sanders visits the then-Soviet Union in June 1988.

the general election if he makes it that far.

"Fidel Castro left a dark legacy of forced labor camps, religious repression, widespread poverty, firing squads and the murder of thousands of his own people," former New York Mayor Mike Bloomberg tweeted. "But sure, Bernie, let's talk about his literary program."

Former South Bend, Ind., Mayor Pete Buttigieg compared Sanders to President Donald Trump, tweeting that after four years of giving dictators a pass, the U.S. needs "a president who will be extremely clear in standing against regimes that violate human rights abroad."

The fact that Sanders' long-ago travels in the communist world have become an issue in the 2020 campaign reflects how unorthodox a choice he would be to lead

the Democratic Party.

Sanders has vowed to remake the party in his far-left image as a "democratic socialist," and he argues that his vision for a political revolution is best exemplified by thriving democratic, first-world societies such as Denmark.

Yet in the 1980s, during the dying days of the Cold War, Sanders indulged a fascination with far more disruptive and divisive strains of a socialist ideology he had embraced throughout his adult life.

Returning home from visits to some of the most avowed enemies of the U.S., Sanders offered some criticism but also praise in Vermont community television recordings. Many of the videos were kept in storage for decades — including during his 2016 campaign — and, even after being posted online, have remained

relatively unknown.

Now, Sanders' comments are coming back to life as opponents say that his warm feelings toward his hosts decades ago make him vulnerable to attack and reveal a soft spot for left-wing despots.

If people are going to vote for socialist candidate Bernie Sanders, they need to understand what socialism means historically. And it's not Scandinavia," said Marion Smith, executive director of the congressionally authorized Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation.

Smith recently tweeted a clip from a 1988 news conference in which Sanders lauds the Soviet Union for its chandelier-filled transit stations and its "palaces of culture." Smith demanded an apology for what went unmentioned.

"He turned a blind eye to what

was known about the ongoing systematic human rights abuses, the suppression of religious and ethnic minorities, the jailing of dissidents," Smith said. "He was very clearly joining the ranks of the useful idiots who believed in the propaganda of the Soviet Union and carried it to the West."

Sanders has consistently pushed back against accusations that he was duped, insisting that his travels were about building bridges and avoiding conflict.

"He believed them and believes now that issues of war and peace are local issues because they direct government investment away from working people here at home," the Sanders campaign said in a statement to The Washington Post. "That's why, as mayor of Burlington, he focused on [President Ronald] Reagan's dirty wars."

Worried Democrats rush to slow front-runner Sanders

Associated Press

HILTON HEAD ISLAND, S.C. — Worried Democrats on Monday intensified their assault against the party's presidential front-runner, Bernie Sanders, as the Vermont senator marched toward South Carolina's weekend primary looking for a knockout blow.

At least three leading candidates, Joe Biden, Pete Buttigieg and Mike Bloomberg, reinforced their anti-Sanders rhetoric with paid attack ads for the first time. And a new political group was spending big to undermine Sanders' standing with African American voters.

"Socialist Bernie Sanders is promising a lot of free stuff," says

a brochure sent to 200,000 black voters in South Carolina by The Big Tent Project, a new organization trying to derail Sanders' candidacy. "Nominating Bernie means we elect Trump. We can't afford Bernie Sanders."

The multi-pronged broadside just five days before South Carolina's first-in-the-South primary represents the Democrats' most aggressive attempt to knock down Sanders. It reflects growing concern within his party that the self-described democratic socialist is tightening his grip on the presidential nomination while they fear he's too extreme to defeat President Donald Trump this fall.

It also underscores the precarious state of Biden's campaign.

The former vice president has long been viewed as the unquestioned front-runner in South Carolina because of his support from black voters. But as the contest nears, Sanders is also making a strong play here. If he can eat into Biden's base of support, that would raise fundamental questions about the future of Biden's candidacy.

Sanders has shifted new staff into the state from Nevada in the last 24 hours, expanded his South Carolina advertising and added events to his schedule.

Sanders senior adviser Jeff Weaver said that there was an "air of desperation" to the fresh attacks on his candidate.

"You've got candidates, you've got super PACs, all piling on to

stop Bernie Sanders," Weaver said. "They know he has the momentum in the race."

Biden still predicted he would win "by plenty" in Saturday's contest, the first with a sizable black population to weigh in.

Beyond South Carolina, polls suggest that Sanders will perform well when more than a dozen states vote in the March 3 Super Tuesday contests. That's when critics fear Sanders could build an insurmountable lead in delegates.

Sanders was the focus of Buttigieg's first attack ad of the 2020 campaign. In the ad, which began running Monday as part of the former South Bend, Ind., mayor's multimillion-dollar South Carolina advertising campaign, Buttigieg highlights Sanders' call for a government-financed health care system as an example of the Democratic front-runner's "polarization."

Biden released an online ad accusing Sanders of trying to undermine President Barack Obama's 2012 reelection campaign with a possible primary challenge. Sanders, of course, ultimately did not challenge Obama from the left.

Watching the tumult from afar during a trip to India, Trump predicted a long and messy primary season ahead for his rivals.

"It could go to the convention, it really could," Trump said. "They are going to take it away from Crazy Bernie, they are not going to let him win."

NATION

Weinstein verdict could influence similar cases

By MARYCLAIRE DALE
AND JENNIFER PELTZ
Associated Press

NEW YORK — New York prosecutors are hailing Harvey Weinstein's conviction as a pivotal moment that could change the way the legal system views a type of sexual assault case historically considered difficult to prove.

Most of the women who testified against Weinstein stayed in contact with him — and sometimes had consensual sexual encounters with him — after alleged attacks. None promptly reported his crimes. There was little physical evidence to bolster their stories.

The jury convicted anyway, finding the producer guilty of raping one woman in 2013 and sexually assaulting another in 2006.

"This is a new day," Manhattan District Attorney Cyrus Vance Jr. said after the verdict was announced. "Rape is rape whether the survivor reports within an hour, within a year or perhaps never. It's rape despite the complicated dynamics of power and consent after an assault. It's rape even if there is no physical evidence."

But some women's advocates cautioned that it's too soon to know how much the legal landscape has shifted.

"This is not a signal that our systems and institutions are magically transformed," said Sonja Ossorio, president of the National Organization for Women's New York chapter, who sat through most of the trial. "This is one case, one man. We've got to keep it in perspective."

If any case seemed to encapsulate the #MeToo reckoning with sexual miscon-

duct, gender dynamics and power as a form of coercion, it was Weinstein's.

Dozens of women who crossed paths with Weinstein through the entertainment industry have said he bullied, pressured, coerced or overpowered them while demanding sexual favors. The alleged encounters took place over many decades, amid movie screenings in Los Angeles, film festivals in Cannes, and business meetings in New York or London.

The New York case involved only six accusers: three directly linked to the charges and three whose testimony was meant to bolster the prosecution case.

Weinstein's defense team argued that the encounters were consensual, if perhaps "transactional." He wanted sex, they wanted access to his power over the film world.

While the law recognizes that people can be assaulted by intimate partners in ongoing relationships, those cases have rarely been prosecuted in the past, because they're difficult to prove, several trial lawyers said. The tide is starting to change, however, as prosecutors take more risks and juries become more aware of the complexities of human behavior.

"This case challenges our notions of what is force in a sexual relationship, what is lack of consent in a sexual relationship," said Paul DerOhannesian, an Albany, N.Y., defense lawyer, former sex crimes prosecutor and author of a guide to sexual assault trials. He followed the trial coverage and found it telling that one of the first questions from the jury involved the legal definition of "consent" and "forcible compulsion."

Vance initially declined to prosecute



ELIZABETH WILLIAMS/AP

In this courtroom sketch, producer Harvey Weinstein is led out of Manhattan Supreme Court by court officers after a jury convicted him of rape and sexual assault Monday in New York. Dozens of women who crossed paths with Weinstein have said he bullied, pressured, coerced or overpowered them while demanding sexual favors.

Weinstein when a model claimed he'd groped her in 2015. Facing criticism of the 2015 decision after waves of additional women came forward two years later, Vance ultimately took some of their allegations to trial.

One of the first witnesses at trial was an expert on victim behavior, who testified that it isn't unusual for sexual assault victims to continue communicating with their attackers. A decade ago, that type of expert testimony was rarely allowed.

The jury ultimately acquitted Weinstein of two of the most serious counts: one of first-degree rape, and a second charge that he was a sexual predator, linked to the testimony of actress Annabella Sciorra, who said Weinstein barged into her apartment and raped her in the early 1990s.

But Weinstein, 67, still faces the possibility of up to 29 years in prison. He's also facing separate charges in Los Angeles involving two more alleged sexual assault victims.

Criminal defense attorney Richard Kahan said the New York case could both empower women to come forward and embolden prosecutors to take on tough cases.

"Now there is a roadmap on how you can win this kind of case," he said, predicting more people would come forward.

"There's always the fear of coming forward, you know, going through a trial, getting beat up and humiliated and then not getting that verdict. Now that they see it can be done, I think more people will come forward and definitely empower the movement."

Union probe finds Domingo abused power

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — An investigation into legendary singer Plácido Domingo by the U.S. union representing opera performers found more than two dozen people who said they were sexually harassed or witnessed inappropriate behavior by the superstar when he held senior management positions at Washington National Opera and Los Angeles Opera, according to people familiar with the findings.

The investigation, conducted by lawyers hired by the American Guild of Musical Artists, concluded that the accounts from 27 people showed a clear pattern of sexual misconduct and abuse of power by Domingo spanning at least two decades, according to those who spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to disclose the findings.

In response to a request for comment from the AP, Domingo issued a statement saying: "I have taken time over the last several months to reflect on the allegations that various colleagues of mine have made against me. I respect that these women finally felt comfortable enough to speak out, and I want them to know that I am truly sorry for the hurt that I caused them. I accept full responsibility for my actions, and I have grown from this experience."

The union's investigation was the first of two independent inquiries launched after multiple women accused Domingo of sexual harassment and abusing his power



Domingo

in two AP stories published last year. The second inquiry, still ongoing, was launched by LA Opera, where Domingo had been general director since 2003 before resigning in October.

According to the people familiar with the contents of the union's investigation, lawyers from the firm Caren O'Connor interviewed 55 people from September until late December. In addition to the 27 who said they experienced or witnessed sexually suggestive behavior on the part of Domingo in the 1990s and 2000s, 12 others said they were aware of the star's reputation and that it was common knowledge at the two companies.

Mirroring AP's reporting last year, the investigation found that the allegations included unsolicited physical touching that ranged from kisses on the mouth to groping, late-night phone calls in which Domingo asked women to come to his residence, and inviting women to go out with him socially with such persistence that some felt they were being stalked.

In the rest of his statement to the AP, Domingo said, "I understand now that some women may have feared expressing themselves honestly because of a concern that their careers would be adversely affected if they did so. While that was never my in-

tention, no one should ever be made to feel that way."

"I am committed to affecting [sic] positive change in the opera industry so that no one else has to have that same experience. It is my fervent wish that the result will be a safer place to work for all in the opera industry."

Union officials would not directly address the contents of the report, which has not been made public. But the union's national executive director, Leonard Egert, issued a statement saying, "AGMA salutes the brave people across all our industries and encourages them to continue speaking out against wrongdoing. We call upon management, and pledge to work collaboratively with them, to get at the root causes that have allowed this behavior to occur, and go unaddressed, in opera, dance, and choral cultures for far too long."

Egert, other senior union leaders and the investigators briefed the union's Board of Governors on the findings Monday.

The people familiar with the investigation said Domingo, now 79, had reiterated his denials of wrongdoing to investigators and contended that he did not occupy a position of power over his colleagues and their careers. The investigators said that they found the witness accounts to be credible based on the number of people who came forward, the similarities of their stories, corroborations of their accounts, and the common theme that women at his companies were warned to avoid being in close contact with him.

Ex-coach gets 6 months in college scam

Associated Press

BOSTON — The former men's tennis coach at the University of Texas at Austin sprinted away from a scrum of reporters and his own lawyers Monday after he was sentenced to six months in prison for taking a \$100,000 bribe as part of a sweeping college admissions scam.

Michael Center collapsed into his chair and sobbed with his face in his hands after the judge declared he would spend time behind bars for actions that undermined the public's faith in the college admissions process. Center pleaded guilty in Boston's federal court last year to participating in the bribery scheme, in which Hollywood stars and other prominent parents paid huge sums to get their kids into top universities, prosecutors say.

Center walked out of the courthouse with his attorneys and was surrounded by reporters before breaking into a run, leaving the media and his attorneys behind.

Authorities say the admissions consultant at the center of the scam, Rick Singer, paid Center to help an applicant get admitted as a tennis recruit, even though the student didn't play the sport competitively.

Center is one of a handful of coaches and parents who have been cooperating with prosecutors.

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Vandals target historic town's 9/11 memorial

MA PLYMOUTH — A week after Plymouth Rock was defaced with graffiti, it appears as if vandals have targeted the historic Massachusetts town's 9/11 memorial.

A statue of a police officer was knocked over sometime over the weekend, and two nearby lamp posts were knocked over. The statue's head was knocked off. A nearby figure of a firefighter was untouched.

On Feb. 16, Plymouth Rock, the symbolic spot of the Pilgrims landing 400 years ago, was covered in paint. Vandals also targeted the Pilgrim Maiden statue and several other significant spots.

It was not clear of the two vandalism cases are connected.

4 hospitalized after wave slams boat

VA VIRGINIA BEACH — Four people were taken to a hospital after a rogue wave hit their whale-watching boat during a Virginia Aquarium tour.

The incident happened after the vessel left the Virginia Beach Fishing Center, Virginia Aquarium and Marine Science Center spokesman Matt Klepeisz told news outlets. The boat was passing through the Rudee Inlet with about 124 people on board when the wave struck it.

The boat returned to the fishing center, and paramedics took four people for treatment, he said.

Man drives Jeep off roof of parking garage

CA SANTA MONICA — A man was hospitalized after driving his Jeep off the sixth floor of a Los Angeles-area parking garage.

Officers responding found the destroyed vehicle up against a McDonald's restaurant across the street from the public parking structure in Santa Monica, police said.

Firefighters extricated him from the wreckage and took him to a local trauma center, where he was listed in critical condition, the Santa Monica Fire Department said.

Police in the coastal city were investigating what caused the crash.

Man smashes window, grabs woman on couch

RI LINCOLN — An 18-year-old man was arrested after authorities said he smashed the window of a Rhode Island home and grabbed a woman who was sitting on a couch.

Police said that Jared Yankee grabbed the woman, but she was able to break free from his grasp. Yankee then paced around the room and yelled.

When officers arrived, police said that Yankee was shirtless and wearing flannel pants. Police said that he refused to comply with officers' commands and was eventually restrained and arrested.



ROBERT F. BUKATY/AP

Frosty view

Douglas Ciampi of Westminster, Mass., stands next to a rim ice-covered antenna while taking in the view from the summit of Mount Washington, N.H., on Sunday. Rim ice forms when supercooled moisture hits a solid surface. Ciampi's five-hour hike was rewarded by exceptionally clear conditions allowing for a visibility of 100 miles from the northeast's highest peak.

Tree falls due to high winds, crushes man

WA RENTON — A man was critically injured in Renton, Wash., after a tree fell on a six-unit apartment building during a morning of high winds and heavy rain.

The man was sleeping on a couch in the living room of one of the units when the 200-foot tree came crashing down, KING-TV reported.

It took about 45 minutes to rescue the man, who had the tree across his pelvis and was critically injured.

A cold front that moved through western Washington over the weekend brought wind gusts up to 40 mph, knocking out power for nearly 20,000 customers in the Puget Sound.

Experts say bald eagle eggs may never hatch

CA MONROVIA — Two California bald eagle eggs have passed their normal incubation time and may never hatch, experts said.

The eggs in a nest at Big Bear Lake have been seen daily on streaming video from a camera positioned at the nest, The San Gabriel Valley Tribune reported.

The eggs most likely contain dead offspring, although they are still being attended by their parents, Jackie and Shadow, the U.S. Forest Service said.

"It's hard to say this, but the

THE CENSUS

\$11.7M

The approximate amount of money that Penn State students raised for pediatric cancer in their annual 46-hour dance marathon known asTHON. The \$11,696,942.38 total was announced at the conclusion of the Penn State Interfraternity Council/Panhellenic Dance Marathon, billed as the world's largest student-run philanthropy. Money raised benefits pediatric cancer patients and their families at the Penn State Milton S. Hershey Medical Center.

odds of our Big Bear bald eagle nest's eggs hatching this year are diminishing each day," Zach Behrens, public affairs officer for the San Bernardino National Forest, wrote in a social media post.

Reward offered for leads to whooping crane killers

LA NEW ORLEANS — Louisiana and other donors are offering \$11,000 in rewards for information about whoever shot and killed two endangered whooping cranes about a year apart.

There's a \$5,000 reward for information about whoever killed one in Jefferson Davis Parish in November, and another \$6,000 for tips leading to arrest and conviction in a November 2018 killing.

A 1½-year-old crane's body was found Nov. 15 in a rice and crawfish field in Elton, Adam Einck, spokesman for the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries' enforcement division, said. A necropsy determined that it had been shot and killed a day or two earlier.

Einck said there's also still a

\$6,000 reward out for tips leading to the arrest and conviction of whoever shot a whooping crane from Crowley and Rayne in Acadia Parish in November 2018.

Church to pay off students' lunch debts

OH CLAYTON — A church program in Ohio will pay off students' outstanding lunch debt in nine school districts after raising more than \$40,000 in donations.

The Salem Church of God's Next Steps Pastor Bob Hawker asked congregants to donate to the \$14,000 combined student lunch debt of Northmont and Brookville school districts. The congregation raised over \$40,000 in four days.

Dog stolen from pet store taken to firehouse

FL PEMBROKE PINES — An English bulldog puppy that was stolen from a Florida pet store was found a day

later after it was dropped off at a fire station.

The puppy, named Oscar, appeared to be in good health and was returned to its caretakers at a Petland store in Pembroke Pines.

WPGL-TV reported that authorities are still looking for the two men who stole the chocolate English bulldog.

The men posed as customers and were caught by surveillance cameras walking out of the store with the puppy.

Museum gifted major Asian photo collection

MA SALEM — A Massachusetts museum received a gift of more than 1,600 photographic works it said will enhance what is already one of the leading collections of Asian photography in the U.S. and Europe.

The gift to the Peabody Essex Museum in Salem comes from the Joy of Giving Something Foundation, known for its work that explores the intersection of photography and social issues.

The collection features the works of 123 artists, primarily of Chinese and Japanese descent or who worked in eastern Asia, from 1930 to the present day. The museum already has a roughly 5,000-piece collection of 19th-century photography.

From wire reports

WORLD

In India, Trump talks domestic squabbles

Associated Press

NEW DELHI — Returning to domestic squabbles, President Donald Trump lashed out at Supreme Court justices and his Democratic rivals Tuesday during the second and last day of a whirlwind trip to India. Addressing reporters and business leaders, Trump warned of economic calamity if he loses his reelection race in November and repeated his call for two liberal-leaning Supreme Court justices to recuse themselves from cases involving him or his administration.

The Republican president also said he had not been briefed on intelligence suggesting Russia is meddling in the 2020 election, either to bolster him or Democratic candidate Bernie Sanders.

"Nobody even told me that," he said at a news conference, later adding, "I want no help from any country and I haven't been given help from any country," despite Russia's well-documented meddling in the 2016 election to help him win.

Trump had joked at the beginning of the news conference that he would be "very, very conservative" in his answers to avoid distracting from his "fantastic two days" in India.

But then he quickly launched into attacks, including criticizing Supreme Court Justices Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Sonia Sotomayor, the latter for a blistering dissent that was critical of the Trump administration's rush to claim emergencies when asking the Supreme Court to review cases.

"I just don't know how they can not recuse themselves for anything Trump or Trump-related," he said.

He added: "What Justice Sotomayor said yesterday was highly inappropriate. She's trying to shame people with perhaps a different view into voting her way." He said Ginsburg had gone "wild" against him during the 2016 campaign.

Trump spent much of Tuesday meeting with Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and emerged saying he was optimis-

tic about the prospects of inking a trade deal with India despite moves by both sides that created doubt about the ability to reach an agreement. Trump had made clear before the trip that hammering out a long-sought trade deal with India was unlikely during the two-day trip.

"Our teams have made tremendous progress on a comprehensive trade agreement and I'm optimistic we can reach a deal that will be of great importance to both countries," Trump told reporters on the second and final day of his whirlwind, 36-hour, first official visit to India. He said at the news conference that, if a deal happens, it will likely be "towards the end of the year."

The day began with an elaborate welcome ceremony in front of the grand Rashtrapati Bhavan Presidential Palace in New Delhi, continuing the pomp and pageantry the Indian government had lavished on Trump a day earlier. Cannons fired as the president's armored car, nicknamed "The Beast," rolled through the palace gates accompanied by a parade of red-uniformed guards on horseback. The ceremony included hundreds of military officials, marching with instruments and swords, as well as an official greeting by India's president and Modi.

Trump continued to shower praise on Modi for the opulent and colorful welcome spread across three cities.

"The last two days were amazing in every sense of the word," Trump said as he and Modi briefly addressed reporters after the first of their two meetings. Trump described the trip as "unforgettable," "extraordinary" and an expression of "love."

Modi said he was thankful Trump visited despite the presidential campaign underway in the United States. Trump has said the short India visit was partly due to presidential politics.

"I know that it's busy time for you in the United States," Modi told Trump. "But despite that, you accepted an invitation to visit India. I welcome you and your delegation."

Associated Press

ANKARA, Turkey — An airstrike on a rebel-held northwestern Syrian city struck a school Tuesday, killing three people, Syrian opposition activists said, as government forces moved forward in their offensive toward a town considered a symbol of the uprising against President Bashar Assad.

The violence came as Turkey's presi-

dent announced that a Russian delegation would arrive the following day to resume talks aimed at easing tensions in the north-

west Idlib region.

The area is the country's last rebel-con-

trolled stronghold and the Syrian govern-

ment's military campaign there, backed by Russia, has created a humanitarian cata-

strophe with nearly one million people dis-

placed from their homes since Dec. 1.

Most of them are now crowding areas close to the border with Turkey, living in camps, shelters, abandoned homes and in open fields. It is the largest single displacement of Syria's war, now in its ninth year.

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said no consensus was reached for a four-way meeting next month between the leaders of France, Germany, Russia and Turkey meant to address the crisis. He added, however, that Russia's Vladimir Putin may still come to Turkey next week for a bilateral meeting. Moscow has so far not confirmed a March 5 visit by the Russian president to Turkey.

Tensions have been running high between Turkey and Russia, which support opposing sides of the war in Syria. The

Syrian government offensive has shattered a fragile cease-fire agreement that Turkey and Russia reached in 2018 and Turkey has threatened military action unless Syrian forces retreat to positions they held before the advance by the end of February.

"Russia supports Syria at the highest level," Erdogan told reporters before departing for a visit to Azerbaijan. "Even if they deny it, we have evidence. We are forced to do in this fight."

Turkish officials had reported small progress in two previous rounds of Turkey-Russia meetings but said the results were not satisfactory.

Turkey had set up a dozen observation posts as part of the 2018 agreement, many of which are now behind Syrian government lines.

Ankara also sent thousands of additional troops into Idlib in recent weeks and has frequently engaged in military exchanges with Syrian troops.

At least 16 Turkish soldiers were killed in February clashes during the Syrian government's push on the last rebel stronghold.

In the provincial capital of Idlib that carries the same name, a school was struck with a cluster bomb-fired rocket, killing two girls and a teacher, according to the Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights. Idlib-based opposition activist Hadi Abdullah confirmed that three people were killed in Idlib.

Another Idlib-based opposition activist, Taher al-Omar, said the airstrike also wounded 12 students and teachers.



President Donald Trump offers floral respects at Raj Ghat, a Mahatma Gandhi memorial, with first lady Melania Trump by his side in New Delhi on Tuesday.

ALEX BRANDON/AP

Violence erupts over India citizenship law

Associated Press

decision for the people," he said.

The group of Hindus roamed the area shouting praises to Hindu gods and goddesses. Police fired tear gas to disperse them and a group of rival Muslims. They retreated to the two sides of a highway.

Also Tuesday, protesters in several other areas of northeastern New Delhi defied orders prohibiting the assembly of more than five people and threw stones and set some shops and vehicles on fire, a police officer said. Some homes were attacked with rocks.

The police officer, who spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to talk to reporters, said the situation was tense but under control. Police and paramilitary forces sent reinforcements to quell the clashes.

The New Delhi Television news channel said more than 100 people had been injured in clashes since Monday.

Police spokesman Anil Kumar confirmed seven deaths on Monday, but said he didn't have the number of people injured in Tuesday's violence.

The Press Trust of India news agency put the death toll at nine.

Syrian troops press ahead with campaign as strike kills 3

Associated Press

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WORLD

At Brazil's Carnival, Rio takes aim at public urination

BY TERENCE MCCOY
The Washington Post

RIO DE JANEIRO — The city square was swarming with revellers — many of them drunk, or drunker — but Guilherme Gitsen knew he wouldn't find his target here. The area was too busy, too open. He'd have to get off the main roads. Move into the shadows. Think like one of them.

Where there was no need was insurmountable, and the opportunities for relief scarce, would he go to pee?

Charged with fining public urinators during the city's world-famous Carnival, which culminates this week, Gitsen, a member of Rio's municipal pee squad, ducked down a darkened side street. And there, up ahead, against a truck selling ice, he found what he was looking for.

A man relieving himself in public.

Busted.

The culprit estimated he was 10 beers deep. He shrugged. What was there to say, really, except:

"I had to pee."

Thus passed another skirmish in Brazil's intensifying war on public urination, a frequent occurrence in a country where the



EVGENY MAKAROV/For The Washington Post

A man urinates on Saturday at the Praça General Osorio in Rio.

people have long been more likely to invest in drinking and partying than public restrooms. Now the country's largest cities are bolstering the ranks of inspectors like Gitsen, deploying an increasing number of portable toilets, passing increasingly strict public ordinances and writing thousands of tickets.

"Lei do xixi," it's called in São Paulo: "The pee law."

The pressure to hold it is particularly acute at this time of year, when the annual bacchanal of Carnival gushes millions of people onto the streets — and when the perennial problem of public urination is most likely to make international news.

Last year, as Carnival was petering out, President Jair Bolsonaro tweeted a video of one man urinating on another during

the festivities, causing the term "golden shower" to trend. And in 2016, when Rio de Janeiro was taken over by the Olympics, American swimmer Ryan Lochte found himself embroiled in an international imbroglio that included, among other absurdities, his entourage urinating into some bushes at a gas station.

Now Rio de Janeiro is pouring resources into the matter. In the last decade, it has tripled the number of portable toilets from 9,000 to 34,000, and dispatched squads to fine offenders, who, in local parlance, are "making xixi."

"People are now learning the correct behavior," said Renato Rodrigues, an official with the city agency that oversees the efforts. "The culture is changing, and the scenario is much better now."

Perhaps in Rio. But in other parts of the country, the issue is bigger than Carnival.

Daniel Véras Ribeiro, a professor at the Federal University of Bahia, has been conducting research at the confluence of civil engineering and urine. He says public urination is less an annoyance than a disaster waiting to happen. Urine contains low doses

of ammonia, which, upon repeated application, will corrode concrete caught in the line of fire.

At soccer stadiums, many Brazilian fans, lest they miss any of the action, have historically relieved themselves on ramps and bleachers. That has led to deep structural degradation.

"If we don't do anything about it now, the very structure of Maracanã" — the famed Rio stadium — "could be destroyed," one engineer fretted in 2000.

In 2007, an upper tier at a soccer stadium collapsed in the northern city of Salvador, killing seven people. Officials blamed the "custom of people peeing in the bleachers."

Ribeiro says he sees the potential for similar tragedy etched into the badly deteriorated columns holding up highway overpasses and used by homeless people as bathrooms.

"The custom of peeing in public has historic reasons," he said. "But principally, it is the result of terrible public bathroom infrastructure in Brazil, which practically doesn't exist, and when it does, is so badly maintained that they're practically impossible to use."

Stripes SERVICE DIRECTORY

The Daily Guide to Navigating the European Business Market

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Fame not a part of Freeman's plan

'Hobbit' actor says pursuing his passion led to greater rewards than he'd expected

BY LUANIE LEE
Tribune News Service

For most of his life, British actor Martin Freeman didn't want to draw attention to himself. Although he became famous, it wasn't part of his plan. But with roles like Bilbo Baggs in the "Hobbit" trilogy, Dr. Watson to Benedict Cumberbatch's "Sherlock" and the quietly murderous Lester Nygaard in "Fargo," he simply couldn't help himself.

"Some days I'm more clever with many than others," he says. "I'm a reasonably private person. My nature is very private, and, of course, you only find out how private you are when people want to know more about you. You find out what kind of man you are when you become a dad."

He is the father of an 11-year-old daughter and a 14-year-old son, which suits him perfectly for his latest role as the harassed dad in FX's comedy "Breeders," premiering statewide next week.

Freeman, 48, thinks sometimes he's a success at parenting and sometimes a failure. "Fortunately my ex and I are very amicable, so we split (time with them) and the lines of communication are very open. We're lucky with that," he says.

His ex is his longtime partner, actress Amanda Abington, with whom he split four years ago.

His own childhood was happy.

"I grew up in the situation where a lot of times there was not much money around — not crying, Dickensian poverty, but it

wasn't lots of money. But I always knew I was loved. For me, that was everything. It's nice not to be poor. But if you know people who've got your back and truly love you, it's really important. So I think me and my ex try, and our kids definitely know they're adored."

The youngest of five, Freeman was only 10 when his father died. "The full weight of that didn't hit me until several years later," he says.

"I remember being in a theater and some credits came down and the name Geoffrey Freeman, my dad spelled it with a G. I was about 18 and was with my first girlfriend and I started weeping. And I hadn't really felt that when my dad died. I was playing football and bouncing back. When you're 10, you have other s--- to worry about besides grieving. But when it hits you later on, that's a pretty big deal."

His parents had divorced when he was young, and he lived part time with his dad. "I was really small. I was quite a sickly kid with hip problems and asthma. I was in and out of the hospital. I didn't want another reason for people to feel sorry for me," he says.

"I was already one of the few kids in my school whose parents were divorced. So no one was nasty to me, but I didn't want to stand out. So I tried to minimize it, I suppose. It was later on when I allowed myself. I thought I'd not really grieved this when the thought of not having a parent hits you, I'm allowed to be upset by that."

Freeman became part of a youth theater



FX/TNS

Martin Freeman, known previously for his roles in the original cast of "The Office" and "Sherlock," as well as the "Hobbit" trilogy, played Lester Nygaard in the first season of TV's "Fargo." Now he stars as a harassed father in the comedy "Breeders."

as a teenager and discovered he had a facility for acting. Other people thought so too.

"Up to that point I'd thought it was something I just enjoyed. I liked the social aspect, and I'm a bit of a showoff, so I liked being on stage and all that. But I'd not really thought, 'Oh, this is something that I can pursue until I was 17 and I thought, 'I love it, and I'm quite good at it.'"

He says his mother supported his idea.

"My mom was excited because she'd wanted to be an actor. When she was a young woman, her dream would've been to be an actor. It wasn't the time — her circumstance wasn't right — so when I said 'I think I want to be an actor,' she said, 'Go for it!'"

He did go for it, and after almost three years of drama school, he began working in theater. At age 30, he landed the role of Tim in the original British version of "The Office." That series became a massive hit.

But a few years later, Freeman began to doubt his choices.

"I was famous; I was doing pretty well. But I sort of started to wonder if I really liked doing it. If I really enjoyed doing it. What is it about this job that I really love? Is it habit? A lot of the time in life — whether it's opinions about things, the things you love or hate — a lot of the time you think, 'Is this just a habit I've got into?'

"Looking back at it now, I think, what were you worried about? You had money? But maybe I missed out on a couple of jobs, and that may have knocked my confidence.

"And I think being financially cautious — my motto has been: Never go to jail, always pay your taxes, all that ... I think maybe it was partially a financial thing, maybe it was missing out on a couple of jobs and I remember thinking, 'Maybe I'm not that good; maybe I'm not as good as I'd hoped I was, and maybe this isn't what I'm supposed to do.' But thank God that passed and the love for it came back."

Singer Pharrell moving in on Miami's restaurant scene

Grammy award-winning singer Pharrell was fired from three McDonald's as a teen, but that didn't stop him from opening what has become one of the hottest restaurants in Miami.

The singer hosted a soul food brunch Feb. 22 along with his dad Pharoah, a self-taught chef, known for his sweet and spicy Nono Sauce, as part of the South Beach Wine & Food Festival.

Growing up, family meals were the heart of the Williams home, a place to "hear what's exciting at your parent's job."

"Cooking is a reflection of your parents, the energy, the love. Food is a connector and it's a meeting place," Pharrell told The Associated Press during an interview before the brunch.

Back home, Pharoah Williams was always in the kitchen and so were his grandmothers. Favorite dishes included his dad's chicken and pork and fried catfish with a special sauce that Pharrell says was more savory than spicy.

"His seasoning was what was always so distinctive with my dad's cooking, and both my grandmothers cooked like that," he said.

At the sold-out \$150 per ticket brunch at the upscale Swan restaurant in Miami's design district, fellow Grammy winner DJ Khalid, and former "Breaking Bad" co-stars Bryan Cranston and Aaron Paul were among the guests savoring the food on a tropical jungle-style patio.

Happy to leave behind his fast food days, Phar-



KELLI KENNEDY/AP

From left, Pharrell poses Feb. 22 with his father, Pharoah Williams, and nightife guru David Grutman at the Swan restaurant in Miami. The singer and his father hosted a soul food brunch as part of the South Beach Wine & Food Festival.

rell opened Swan restaurant and its swanky upstairs Moroccan-themed Bar Bevy in 2018 with South Beach nightife guru and LIV club owner David Grutman. The restaurant has been a hotbed for celebrities, especially during the Super Bowl and recent Art Basel weeks, where everyone from Kanye West and Kim Kardashian West to Leonardo DiCaprio and Bono have indulged.

But the "Happy" singer is clear about his role in the restaurant business — he happily stays out of the kitchen.

"I didn't cook then. I don't cook now," he said, laughing. "I love food."

From The Associated Press

'Mission: Impossible' shoot delayed over virus concerns

From wire services

Paramount Pictures on Monday halted production on the seventh "Mission: Impossible" film due to the current virus outbreak, as Hollywood began to more drastically adapt to the growing global epidemic.

"Mission: Impossible 7" had been scheduled to shoot for three weeks in Venice. More than 200 people have tested positive for coronavirus in Italy, the largest number outside Asia. While most of those cases are in the neighboring Lombardy region, authorities said three people in Venice have tested positive for the virus.

In a statement, Paramount cited the Venetian government's halting of public gatherings, and said it was canceling the shoot "out of an abundance of caution for the safety and well-being of our cast and crew."

Paramount also on Monday postponed the Chinese release of "Sonic the Hedgehog."

Netflix to rank popularity of shows

Netflix, which has been tight-lipped about the popularity of its shows and movies, is taking another step toward transparency.

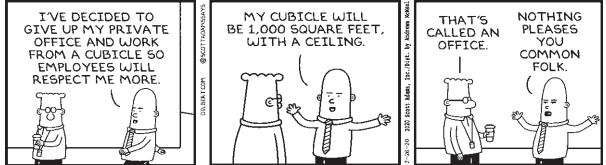
A new feature on the streaming service will show its top 10 most popular programs and movies, updated daily. Netflix has been testing the approach for about six months in Mexico and the U.K. "Members in both countries have found them useful, so we are now rolling them out to even more," Cameron Johnson, who oversees product innovation, said Monday in a blog post.

Netflix, the world's largest streaming subscription service, has frustrated the TV and film industry by not revealing its viewership. Unlike traditional TV, Netflix doesn't make audience data available, and fans are often left wondering why a favorite show was canceled.

Frazz



Dilbert



Pearls Before Swine



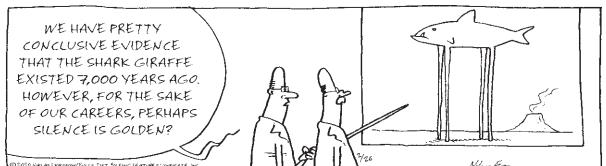
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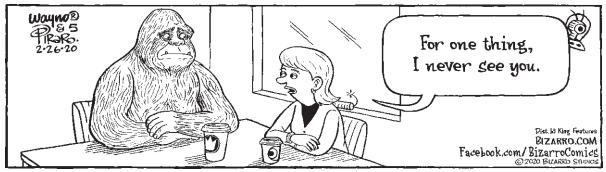
Carpe Diem



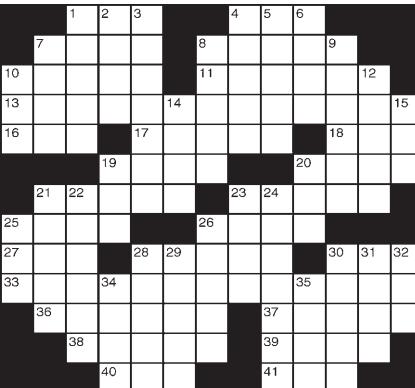
Beetle Bailey



Bizarro



Eugene Sheffer Crossword



ACROSS

- 1 Actress Tyler
4 "Today" rival, briefly
7 Achy
8 Maine college town
10 Old Testament book
11 Speakers' platforms
13 Garden trimmers
16 That fellow's
17 Stop
18 Overly
19 Arkin of "Argo"
20 Gestation location
21 Justice Ruth — Ginsburg
23 Puccini work
25 Top choice, for short
26 Section
27 Equi-
28 Entrap
30 Cartoon frame
33 "Oops!... I Did It Again" singer
36 Cling (to)
37 Extra Dry deodorant
38 Debonair

14 Close
15 Cry
19 Sports drink suffix
20 Drench
21 Iraqi port city
22 Sidesteps
23 Rowboat needs
24 Get ready
25 Little lie
26 Check recipient
28 Golf great Sam
29 Audacity
30 Complaints
31 New York canal
32 Leary's drug
34 Dull sound of impact
35 Cupid's alias

DOWN

- 1 Venue
2 Persia, today
3 Jam ingredient?
4 Icky
5 Dayan of Israel
6 Pot starter
7 Voice in an iPhone
8 Church keyboard
9 Speaker
10 Speedometer stat
12 Bread shop lure

Answer to Previous Puzzle

L	I	E	S	M	B	A	G	A	P	E
A	R	C	O	E	N	O	U	R	A	L
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D	E	L								
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2-26

CRYPTOQUIP

H C S V N B N E W I S I V D R
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U Z P F U H I I Z P X X K M U Z K M S V N

W L K P R V N F ? B K - W P A K E K M F .

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHAT IS THE SPECIAL LANGUAGE USED BY BOTANISTS WHO STUDY FROND-BEARING PLANTS? IT'S THE FERNACULAR.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: B equals D


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OPINION

By CHARLES LANE

The Washington Post

Shortly after the turn of the 20th century, Werner Sombart, a German sociologist, visited the United States. The monograph he published, in 1906, based on his travels would become a kind of ur-text for American exceptionalism: "Why Is There No Socialism in the United States?"

Read this forgotten classic now, before it expires — so speak. Come Jan. 20, 2021, Sen. Bernie Sanders, I-Vt., a democratic socialist, might mark its 115th anniversary by being sworn in as president.

The book's title is a bit misleading: Sombart wasn't writing about the absence of an actual socialist system in this country, but the lack of a strong labor-based socialist political movement, akin to what was then a rising Social Democratic Party in Germany. Sombart, influenced by Karl Marx, thought that capitalism had reached its purest form in the U.S. and, therefore, the American proletariat should be expected to respond with a commensurately high level of socialist militancy and political consciousness.

It had not done so, he argued, because of the high wages and abundant opportunities U.S. workers enjoyed compared with their European counterparts. "On the sheets of roast-beef and apple-pie," he famously explained, "all socialist optimism founders." Widely shared prosperity bestowed legitimacy on capitalism and discouraged class-based resistance to it.

Which brings us to the question: Why, now, is there socialism in the United States? Per Sombart's roast-beef-and-apple-pie aphorism, socialism should be in retreat, because full employment reigns and Americans are more confident than

ever about their personal finances, according to a January Gallup poll. And, indeed, socialism is still viewed positively by only a minority.

That minority, however — 43% in a 2019 Gallup poll — is up 18 points since 1942, notwithstanding the failure of so many attempted collectivist utopias around the world in the interim. And socialism polls best among the young.

There is obviously more to the story — as Sombart also recognized. U.S. political institutions, he wrote, were uniquely different from those in Europe, in ways that discouraged a working-class party. Specifically, American two-party electoral politics formed a bulwark against the rise of a socialist party like the one in Germany. Non-ideological, patronage-seeking Republican and Democratic machines (often appealing to different ethnic groups among the heavily immigrant-origin population) co-opted workers and convinced them that their primary identities were those of region or party, not class.

This disadvantaged third parties of all kinds, which usually found themselves absorbed into the big two ones after trying and failing to gain a following.

(Sombart alluded to the impact of slavery, and of its abolition through the Civil War, on partisan affiliation in the United States, though he failed fully to appreciate the role of racism and white supremacy in undermining working-class solidarity.)

This constraint — two disciplined, "gatekeeper" political parties — held up even through the rise of leftists such as Eugene Debs, Norman Thomas and Henry Wallace after Sombart's time.

It has collapsed, however, in the 21st century. First, the Cold War ended, and with it the threat that the Soviets might take ad-

vantage of U.S. partisan strife, which had helped to keep Republican and Democratic ideology, and policy, within broad centrist channels.

Then came a series of shocks to the body politic more disruptive than any since the 1960s or possibly the 1930s: trade-related deindustrialization; 9/11 and the "endless wars" in Iraq and Afghanistan; the 2008-2009 recession; cultural change driven by social media; mass opioid addiction.

It was Sombart's intellectual precursor Marx, who wrote of the modern world's "constant revolutionizing of production, uninterrupted disturbance of all social conditions, everlasting uncertainty and agitation." Those words come from the "Communist Manifesto," which was written in 1848, but they describe almost perfectly the angst that so many Americans feel today. Even recent prosperity has not fully restored Americans' previous level of confidence in free-market capitalism, in part because it appears to rest on a shaky foundation of debt, and in part because of growing income and wealth inequality.

The reformism that broadly characterized U.S. politics from FDR through the Obama administration seems to be losing traction. Voters seek protection in the promises of ideologies that last enjoyed currency a few years before President Donald Trump or Sanders were born: "America First" and, yes, democratic socialism.

Instead of two big-tent parties absorbing the fringes, as Sombart described, the fringes are absorbing the parties. The first to go to were the Republicans, taken over by Trump. Now Sanders is taking over the Democrats. You might say they are both becoming third parties.

Washington Post editorial writer/columnist Charles Lane specializes in economic and fiscal policy.

Finally complicated stories can bring a conviction

By MONICA HESSE

The Washington Post

The Harvey Weinstein verdict isn't the end of an era, but you could correctly view it as the end of a chapter. The #MeToo movement began in 2017 with allegations that the movie mogul had been systematically assaulting women since the beginning of his career. Now, in 2020, we'll bookmark the spot where a New York jury convicted him of rape in the third degree. Yes, the legal system acknowledged, he had assaulted production assistant Mimi Haleyi and aspiring actress Jessica Mann. The jury voted to acquit on other charges related to actress Annabella Sciorra, but nonetheless: The bad man is going to prison.

I don't want to get too meta here, but as I'm trying to write this column, my inbox keeps interrupting me with media requests: people want me to interview them,

so they can tell me what it all means; or people want to interview me, so I can tell them. These emails followed a week of press releases offering prognostication: If Weinstein is found guilty, the #MeToo movement has triumphed? If Weinstein is acquitted, the #MeToo movement has failed?

Now that Weinstein has been found guilty on five of his charges, we could theoretically translate #MeToo's success into a percentage, but I'd argue that's the wrong measurement entirely. What the verdict means for Weinstein, who is already old and infirm, is that he may die in a jail cell. What it means for his victims is that maybe they'll find a modicum of peace, albeit a tardy one.

But as for what it means for #MeToo?

You'll only find a satisfying answer if you

assumed the movement was solely about converting pain into prison time, about developing a rigid code of transgression and punishment. The #MeToo movement isn't about issuing punishment. It's about inviting enlightenment.

How do we talk about rape? How do we talk about consent? How do we talk about sex that we didn't want but felt we had to agree to, for our physical safety or our careers? How do we talk about the confusing aftermath of those encounters — the compulsion to avoid our attackers forever, or, conversely, the compulsion to stay in contact with our attackers because that contact allows us to take control of the narrative?

How do we explain that when we say "Believe women," we're not saying that women never lie — we're merely saying that for years we've behaved as if they always do. Believe women, rather than just defaulting to believing the men who claim the sex was consensual, she asked for it, she was wearing a skirt.

There's a reason that, in the past three years, much of the #MeToo reckoning took place in the court of public opinion rather than the court of law. In case after case, the victims who were now coming forward did not have meticulously collected rape kits and DNA samples from their assaults. What they had were stories. Messy and complicated ones, the kinds we might have once ignored, or shrugged off as impossible to parse: He-said-she-said, what are you gonna do?

Given the criminal justice system's extraordinarily low conviction rate of sexual assault charges, it was a wonder that Harvey Weinstein was even indicted.

It was a miracle that he was convicted.

But the most remarkable, lasting legacy of Harvey Weinstein's trial is that it deal-

with messy stories. It engaged with the tangled, confusing narratives that, a short while ago, we would have determined were impossible to figure out.

Jessica Mann was raped by Weinstein, but there were also times she consented to sex. Mimi Haleyi was terrified of Weinstein after he forcibly performed oral sex on her, but she still agreed to meet him for drinks several weeks later. "I was still trying to make sense of what had happened," she said. She had still pitched Weinstein projects. She still hoped they could have a professional relationship.

The verdict took several days to be delivered, which must have been agony for the victims. At one point, the jury sent a message to the judge, asking whether they were allowed to be unanimous on some verdicts and hung on others. The jury was told, no — go back and figure it out.

But, as an outside observer there was something admirable in the wait. It signified that jurors were wrestling with the difficult truths of only flawed humans can. They weren't jumping to obvious guilt or innocence, they were digging into how nuanced all this can be.

Their ultimate guilty verdict says imperfect victims are still victims. It says maybe all of this is messier than we thought.

What does the Harvey Weinstein verdict mean for the #MeToo movement? The movement didn't deliver his guilt, but it opened the door for more complicated understandings of victims and victimhood, power and relationships. Inside the courtroom, yes — but also outside the courtroom, for the rest of us.

His sentence is just one sentence in the history. On to the next chapter.

Monica Hesse is a columnist for The Washington Post's Style section and author of "American Fire."

SCOREBOARD

Sports on AFN

Go to the American Forces Network website for the most up-to-date TV schedules.
myafn.net

College baseball

Monday's scores

SOUTH
Central Michigan at Jacksonville St., ctd.
Duke, 16. Air Force, 11
Nicholls 4, McNeese 3
MIDWEST
TCU 11, Minnesota 2
WEST
UC Riverside 14, Cal Baptist 2

Pro baseball

Spring Training

AMERICAN LEAGUE

	W	L	Pct.
Toronto	2	0	1.000
Minnesota	0	1	0.000
Chicago	0	1	0.000
Detroit	2	1	0.667
Toots	1	0	1.000
Los Angeles	1	0	1.000
Houston	1	0	1.000
Cleveland	1	0	1.000
Tampa Bay	1	0	1.000
Kansas City	1	0	1.000
Boston	1	0	1.000
Baltimore	1	0	1.000
New York	0	2	0.000
Seattle	0	0	1.000
Oakland	0	4	0.000

NATIONAL LEAGUE

	W	L	Pct.
Miami	3	0	1.000
Los Angeles	2	0	1.000
Philadelphia	2	0	1.000
Milwaukee	2	1	0.667
Chicago	2	1	0.667
San Francisco	1	1	0.500
Arizona	1	1	0.500
Atlanta	1	1	0.500
St. Louis	1	1	0.500
Baltimore	1	1	0.500
Atlanta, 11, Boston 5			
St. Louis 3, N.Y. Mets 3			
L.A. Dodgers 3, San Diego 2			
San Francisco 5, Oakland 3			
Chicago White Sox 7, Cincinnati 2			
Green Bay 1, Milwaukee 0			
San Diego 7, Milwaukee 2			
L.A. Angels 7, Colorado 5			
Tampa Bay 12, Arizona 1			
Arizona 7, Oakland (ss) 3			
Monday's games			
N.Y. Mets vs. Atlanta, 1			
N.M. St. Louis, 3			
Philadelphia 4, Pittsburgh (ss) 3			
Tampa Bay 12, Colorado 7			
Detroit (ss) 5, Atlanta 1			
Detroit 8, Pittsburgh (ss) 4			
Tampa Bay 12, Atlanta 1			
Baltimore 11, Boston 5			
St. Louis 3, N.Y. Mets 3			
L.A. Dodgers 3, San Diego 2			
San Francisco 5, Oakland (ss) 3			
Chicago White Sox 7, Cincinnati 2			
Green Bay 1, Milwaukee 0			
San Diego 7, Milwaukee 2			
L.A. Angels 7, Colorado 5			
Tampa Bay 12, Arizona 1			
Arizona 7, Oakland (ss) 3			
Tuesday's games			
N.Y. Mets vs. Atlanta, 1			
N.M. St. Louis, 3			
Philadelphia 8, Baltimore 7			
Boise 1, Colorado 2			
Minnesota 3, Boston (ss) 2			
Houston 11, Detroit 1			
Tampa Bay 12, Atlanta 1			
San Francisco 11, Arizona 9			
Chicago White Sox 2, L.A. Dodgers 2			
Atlanta 10, Philadelphia 4			
Cincinnati 9, Texas 6			
Kansas City 7, Colorado 5			
St. Louis 12, Arizona 7			
Colorado 12, Seattle 11			
Cuba 12, Angels 7			
L.A. Angels 7, Colorado 5			
Tampa Bay vs. Baltimore (ss) at Sarasota, Fla.			
N.Y. Yankees vs. Detroit at Lakeland, Fla.			
N.Y. Yankees 2 vs. Boston at Fort Myers, Fla.			
Washington vs. St. Louis at Jupiter, Fla.			
Atlanta vs. Philadelphia (ss) at Clearwater, Fla.			
Minnesota vs. Atlanta at North Port, Fla.			
Philadelphia (ss) vs. Pittsburgh at Bradenton, Fla.			
Tampa Bay vs. Baltimore (ss) at Sarasota, Fla.			
N.Y. Yankees vs. Detroit at Lakeland, Fla.			
N.Y. Yankees 2 vs. Boston at Fort Myers, Fla.			
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Philadelphia (ss) vs. Pittsburgh at Bradenton, Fla.			
Tampa Bay vs. Baltimore (ss) at Sarasota, Fla.			
N.Y. Yankees vs. Boston at West Palm Beach, Fla.			
Baltimore (ss) vs. Boston at Fort Myers, Fla.			
Washington vs. St. Louis at Jupiter, Fla.			
Atlanta vs. Philadelphia (ss) at Clearwater, Fla.			
Minnesota vs. Atlanta at North Port, Fla.			
Philadelphia (ss) vs. Pittsburgh at Bradenton, Fla.			
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Philadelphia (ss) vs. Pittsburgh at Bradenton, Fla.			
Tampa Bay vs. Baltimore (ss) at Sarasota, Fla.			

MLB calendar

March 26 — Opening day, active rosters reduced to 26 players.

April 18-19 — San Diego vs. Arizona at Mexico City.

April 20-21 — New York Mets vs. Miami at Juan Santamaria, Puerto Rico.

April 22-23 — Atlanta vs. San Diego at Mexico City.

April 24-25 — San Diego vs. Arizona at Mexico City.

April 26-27 — Atlanta vs. San Diego at Mexico City.

April 28-29 — Atlanta vs. San Diego at Mexico City.

April 30-May 1 — Atlanta vs. San Diego at Mexico City.

May 1-2 — Atlanta vs. San Diego at Mexico City.

May 3-4 — Atlanta vs. San Diego at Mexico City.

May 5-6 — Atlanta vs. San Diego at Mexico City.

May 7-8 — Atlanta vs. San Diego at Mexico City.

May 9-10 — Atlanta vs. San Diego at Mexico City.

May 11-12 — Atlanta vs. San Diego at Mexico City.

May 13-14 — Atlanta vs. San Diego at Mexico City.

May 15-16 — Atlanta vs. San Diego at Mexico City.

May 17-18 — Atlanta vs. San Diego at Mexico City.

May 19-20 — Atlanta vs. San Diego at Mexico City.

May 21-22 — Atlanta vs. San Diego at Mexico City.

May 23-24 — Atlanta vs. San Diego at Mexico City.

May 25-26 — Atlanta vs. San Diego at Mexico City.

May 27-28 — Atlanta vs. San Diego at Mexico City.

May 29-30 — Atlanta vs. San Diego at Mexico City.

May 31-June 1 — Atlanta vs. San Diego at Mexico City.

June 2-3 — Atlanta vs. San Diego at Mexico City.

June 4-5 — Atlanta vs. San Diego at Mexico City.

June 6-7 — Atlanta vs. San Diego at Mexico City.

June 8-9 — Atlanta vs. San Diego at Mexico City.

June 10-11 — Atlanta vs. San Diego at Mexico City.

June 12-13 — Atlanta vs. San Diego at Mexico City.

June 14-15 — Atlanta vs. San Diego at Mexico City.

June 16-17 — Atlanta vs. San Diego at Mexico City.

June 18-19 — Atlanta vs. San Diego at Mexico City.

June 20-21 — Atlanta vs. San Diego at Mexico City.

June 22-23 — Atlanta vs. San Diego at Mexico City.

June 24-25 — Atlanta vs. San Diego at Mexico City.

June 26-27 — Atlanta vs. San Diego at Mexico City.

June 28-29 — Atlanta vs. San Diego at Mexico City.

June 30-July 1 — Atlanta vs. San Diego at Mexico City.

July 2-3 — Atlanta vs. San Diego at Mexico City.

July 4-5 — Atlanta vs. San Diego at Mexico City.

July 6-7 — Atlanta vs. San Diego at Mexico City.

July 8-9 — Atlanta vs. San Diego at Mexico City.

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July 24-25 — Atlanta vs. San Diego at Mexico City.

July 26-27 — Atlanta vs. San Diego at Mexico City.

July 28-29 — Atlanta vs. San Diego at Mexico City.

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Aug. 27-28 — Atlanta vs. San Diego at Mexico City.

Aug. 29-30 — Atlanta vs. San Diego at Mexico City.

Aug. 31-Sept. 1 — Atlanta vs. San Diego at Mexico City.

Sept. 2-3 — Atlanta vs. San Diego at Mexico City.

Sept. 4-5 — Atlanta vs. San Diego at Mexico City.

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Dec. 23-24 — Atlanta vs. San Diego at Mexico City.

Dec. 25-26 — Atlanta vs. San Diego at Mexico City.

Dec. 27-28 — Atlanta vs. San Diego at Mexico City.

Dec. 29-30 — Atlanta vs. San Diego at Mexico City.

Dec. 31-32 — Atlanta vs. San Diego at Mexico City.

Jan. 1-2 — Atlanta vs. San Diego at Mexico City.

Jan. 3-4 — Atlanta vs. San Diego at Mexico City.

Jan. 5-6 — Atlanta vs. San Diego at Mexico City.

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Jan. 25-26 — Atlanta vs. San Diego at Mexico City.

Jan. 27-28 — Atlanta vs. San Diego at Mexico City.

Jan. 29-30 — Atlanta vs. San Diego at Mexico City.

Jan. 31-32 — Atlanta vs. San Diego at Mexico City.

Feb. 1-2 — Atlanta vs. San Diego at Mexico City.

Feb. 3-4 — Atlanta vs. San Diego at Mexico City.

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Feb. 9-10 — Atlanta vs. San Diego at Mexico City.

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Feb. 13-14 — Atlanta vs. San Diego at Mexico City.

NBA

Roundup

Embiid powers 76ers past Hawks

Philadelphia center scores a career-high 49 points in victory

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Joel Embiid scored a career-high 49 points and grabbed 14 rebounds, Tobias Harris had 25 points and the Philadelphia 76ers beat the Atlanta Hawks 129-112 on Monday night.

Missing All-Star Ben Simmons for the second time in three games because of a back injury, the Sixers mixed up their starting lineup and got 15 points from Furkan Korkmaz in a reserve role.

Embiid carried them.

"I said before the All-Star break I was going to have a different mindset, be aggressive," Embiid said. "I said I was going to get back to having fun. Having fun comes in different forms. I don't have to always be smiling and laughing. I can have fun just dominating the game."

Trae Young led the Hawks with 28 points despite missing nine of 11 from three-point range. DeAndre Hunter added 22 and John Collins had 21 for Atlanta.

Simmons only played five minutes in a loss at Milwaukee on Saturday before exiting. He had tests on Sunday and needs further evaluation.

Rockets 123, Knicks 112: James Harden scored 37 points, and host Houston earned its fourth straight victory.

Harden had 31 by halftime, helping the Rockets to a 72-57 lead at the break. He cooled down eventually, but his first-half work put his team in control against struggling New York, which lost its fourth in a row.

Harden, Russell Westbrook and P.J. Tucker arrived at the arena about 70 minutes before tip-off after attending Kobe and Gianna Bryant's memorial service in Los Angeles. Westbrook was expect-



Philadelphia 76ers' Joel Embiid, center, scored a career-high 49 points in his team's win Monday.

ed to play, but was scratched with a sore thumb.

New York got 21 points from RJ Barrett, and Julius Randle added 17 points with 12 rebounds.

Suns 131, Jazz 111: Ricky Rubio had 22 points, 11 assists and seven steals, leading Phoenix to the win at Utah.

In his first game back in Salt Lake City after playing for the Jazz for two seasons, Rubio led an offense that shot 56% and seemed a step ahead of the Jazz all night.

Devin Booker had 24 points and 10 assists for the Suns.

Donovan Mitchell scored 38 points for Utah, which made a season-high 37 free throws — on 43 attempts — but looked disjointed while committing 19 turnovers.

Magic 115, Nets 113: Aaron Gordon had 27 points, 10 rebounds and a big blocked shot in the final seconds, helping Orlando rally

for the win at Brooklyn.

The Magic charged back from a 19-point deficit in the second half to move within 1½ games of the Nets for seventh place in the Eastern Conference.

Spencer Dinwiddie had 24 points and eight assists for Brooklyn, which had won five straight at home by double digits.

Cavaliers 123, Heat 119 (OT): Rookie Kevin Porter Jr. scored a season-high 30 points, including the go-ahead basket in overtime, and host Cleveland rallied from a 22-point deficit to defeat Miami.

Porter's dunk after a pass from Kevin Love gave the Cavs a 119-118 lead with 2:20 to play. Fellow rookie Darius Garland's runner in the lane put Cleveland ahead 121-118 with 40 seconds remaining.

Jae Crowder missed a three-pointer from the corner before Love scored after an offensive

rebound and Porter hit two free throws to seal it.

Mavericks 139, Timberwolves 123: Tim Hardaway Jr. scored 23 points and Luka Doncic had 20, lifting Dallas to the home win.

The Mavericks rested most of their starters in the fourth quarter against Minnesota after scoring 81 points before halftime. Hardaway, Doncic and Kristaps Porzingis did not play in the final period.

Clippers 124, Grizzlies 97: Kawhi Leonard scored 25 points, Montrezl Harrell added 22 and host Los Angeles snapped a three-game losing streak.

Leonard had 14 points in the first quarter as the Clippers roared out to a 40-14 lead. The All-Star forward scored 10 straight, including two dunks, to extend Los Angeles' advantage to 24-6 with 3:49 remaining in the period.

Bucks overcome Wizards, Beal's big game

By HARVEY VALENTINE

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Khris Middleton suddenly went cold down the stretch against the Washington Wizards.

Fortunately for the Milwaukee Bucks, he kept shooting.

With Giannis Antetokounmpo fouled out, Middleton bounced back from five straight misses and scored Milwaukee's final nine points and the Bucks beat Bradley Beal and the Washington Wizards 137-134 in overtime.

"It was frustrating," Middleton said of his cold stretch from late in regulation to early in overtime. "I thought they were easy shots, great looks that I knock down a majority of the time. Going into the timeouts, going back on defense, everybody was just telling me to keep shooting."

Middleton, who finished with 40 points, hit a three-pointer from the top of the key with 30.2 seconds left to give the Bucks a 135-132 lead.

After Beal — who had his second straight 50-point game — made two free throws, Middleton was fouled with 7.8 seconds left and made both attempts from the line to make it 137-134 and Troy Brown, Jr.'s three-pointer rimmed out at the buzzer.

"We definitely didn't want (Beal) to take the last shot," Bucks coach Mike Budenholzer said. "We feel fortunate that we made one more play than them probably down the stretch."

Beal, who had a then-career high 53 points in a loss at Chicago on Sunday, topped it with a 55-point effort that included 22 points in the fourth quarter and seven more in overtime. "I was just locked in and I just was having

fun," said Beal, the first player in franchise history to have back-to-back 50-point games. "Probably the most fun game I've ever played in."

On the day of Kobe Bryant's Memorial Service in Los Angeles, Beal became the first player since Bryant in March 2007 to score 50-plus points on consecutive days.

"Oh man, that's crazy," Beal said. " Didn't know that. That's who Kobe was. That was his drive and that ceremony today just brought the feeling, the tears all back again."

Shabazz Napier added a season-high 27 points for Washington, which has lost three straight.

Antetokounmpo had 22 points and 14 rebounds before fouling out with 1:33 remaining in regulation for Milwaukee, which has won 17 of 19.

Scoreboard

Eastern Conference

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Toronto	42	15	.737	—
Boston	39	17	.696	2½
Philadelphia	38	18	.680	4½
Brooklyn	26	30	.464	15½
New York	17	40	.298	25

Southeast Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	36	21	.632	—
Orlando	25	32	.439	11
Washington	20	37	.339	16½
Charlotte	19	37	.339	16½
Atlanta	17	42	.288	20

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Milwaukee	49	8	.860	—
Indiana	33	24	.575	16
Chicago	25	32	.439	12
Detroit	19	40	.322	31
Cleveland	16	41	.281	33

Western Conference

Southwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	37	20	.649	—
Dallas	30	25	.520	2½
Memphis	28	29	.491	9
New Orleans	25	32	.439	12
San Antonio	24	33	.429	22½

Northwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Denver	39	18	.684	—
Oklahoma City	34	24	.567	3
Oklahoma City	35	22	.614	4
Portland	26	32	.448	13½
Golden State	23	33	.411	20½

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
L.A. Lakers	43	12	.782	—
Phoenix	49	20	.705	6
Phoenix	24	34	.414	20½
Sacramento	23	33	.411	20½
Golden State	16	41	.277	31

Sunday's games

L.A. Lakers	125	112	1.12
Orlando	127	107	.584
Denver	127	116	1.16
Oklahoma City	131	103	1.03
Houston	126	119	1.19
Dallas	138	123	1.23
Phoenix	131	111	1.11
L.A. Clippers	125	107	1.07

Tuesday's games

Charlotte	124	114	1.14
Orlando	115	113	1.13
Phoenix	122	116	1.16
Minnesota	121	119	1.19
Atlanta	123	115	1.15
Dallas	138	123	1.23
Phoenix	131	111	1.11
L.A. Clippers	125	107	1.07

Wednesday's games

Brooklyn	120	119	1.19
Washington	121	117	1.17
Charlotte	123	115	1.15
Oklahoma City	120	117	1.17
Detroit	127	119	1.19
Minnesota	121	119	1.19
Atlanta	123	115	1.15
Dallas	138	123	1.23
Phoenix	131	111	1.11
L.A. Clippers	125	107	1.07

Thursday's games

New York	129	126	1.26
Philadelphia	130	127	1.27
Sacramento	126	124	1.24
Golden State	127	125	1.25
Brooklyn	120	119	1.19
Washington	121	117	1.17
Charlotte	123	115	1.15
Oklahoma City	120	117	1.17
Detroit	127	119	1.19
Minnesota	121	119	1.19
Atlanta	123	115	1.15
Dallas	138	123	1.23
Phoenix	131	111	1.11
L.A. Clippers	125	107	1.07

Leaders

	Scoring	G	FG	FT	PCTVG
Beal, WSH	48	43	.830	.419	.296
Antetokounmpo, MIL	52	48	.821	.415	.275
Young, ATL	52	48	.813	.418	.272
Doncic, DAL	48	42	.815	.304	.250
Leonard, LAC	43	40	.826	.413	.273
Brooks, HOU	52	47	.812	.412	.272
Booker, PHX	52	44	.829	.385	.265
Davis, LAL	52	40	.823	.378	.252
James, LAL	53	50	.707	.303	.252
Ingram, POR	49	41	.827	.427	.245
McCollum, ORL	52	46	.826	.392	.243
Slamka, TOR	46	40	.827	.393	.237
Embiid, PHI	41	30	.828	.449	.231
Beal, WSH	52	46	.827	.414	.231
Antetokounmpo, MIL	52	47	.826	.414	.231
Young, ATL	52	48	.825	.415	.231
Doncic, DAL	48	43	.824	.393	.231
Leonard, LAC	43	40	.823	.412	.231
Booker, PHX	52	44	.823	.378	.231
Davis, LAL	52	40	.822	.377	.231
James, LAL	53	50	.707	.303	.231
Ingram, POR	49	41	.821	.392	.231
McCollum, ORL	52	46	.820	.392	.231
Slamka, TOR	46	40	.820	.393	.231
Embiid, PHI	41	30	.820	.414	.231
Beal, WSH	52	46	.819	.414	.231
Antetokounmpo, MIL	52	47	.818	.413	.231
Young, ATL	52	48	.817	.414	.231
Doncic, DAL	48	43	.817	.393	.231
Leonard, LAC	43	40	.816	.412	.231
Booker, PHX	52	44	.816	.378	.231
Davis, LAL	52	40	.815	.377	.231
James, LAL	53	50	.707	.303	.231
Ingram, POR	49	41	.814	.392	.231
McCollum, ORL	52	46	.814	.392	.231
Slamka, TOR	46	40	.814	.393	.231
Embiid, PHI	41	30	.814	.414	.231
Beal, WSH	52	46	.813	.414	.231
Antetokounmpo, MIL	52	47	.813	.413	.231
Young, ATL	52	48	.812	.414	.231
Doncic, DAL	48	43	.812	.393	.231
Leonard, LAC	43	40	.811	.412	.231
Booker, PHX	52	44	.811	.378	.231
Davis, LAL	52	40	.810	.377	.231
James, LAL	53	50	.707	.303	.231
Ingram, POR	49	41	.809	.392	.231
McCollum, ORL	52	46	.809	.392	.231
Slamka, TOR	46	40	.809	.393	.231
Embiid, PHI	41	30	.809	.414	.231
Beal, WSH	52	46	.808	.414	.231
Antetokounmpo, MIL	52	47	.808	.413	.231
Young, ATL	52	48	.807	.414	.231

COLLEGE BASKETBALL



PHOTOS BY BEN MARGOT/AP

Above: Oregon's Sabrina Ionescu, with ball, looks to shoot between Stanford's Ashten Prechtel, left, and Lexie Hull in her team's 74-66 win at Stanford on Monday. Below: Ionescu became the first NCAA player to reach 2,000 points, 1,000 assists, and 1,000 rebounds.

Oregon's Ionescu helps honor Kobe, then sets NCAA record

By JANIE MCCUALEY
Associated Press

STANFORD, Calif. — Sabrina Ionescu's strength inspired her Oregon coaches and teammates all day, from the way she courageously spoke about the service for Kobe Bryant in Los Angeles earlier in the day, then flew back to the Bay Area and took the court still feeling the effects of the flu, all before leading the Ducks with yet another brilliant performance on both ends.

And doing something never done before in college basketball, by a man or a woman.

Ionescu became the first player in NCAA history to reach 2,000 points, 1,000 assists and 1,000 rebounds and notched her record 26th career triple-double, too, leading the No. 3 Ducks past fourth-ranked Stanford 74-66 on Monday night.

Ionescu wasn't made available to the media for a second straight game, speaking to ESPN on Monday.

"That one was for him. To do it on 2-24-20 was huge," she told the network. "We talked about it in the preseason. I can't put it into words. He's looking down and proud of me and happy for this moment with my team."

Ionescu hit the milestone with a 1.47 rebounding in the third quarter and finished with 21 points, 12 assists and 12 rebounds in her first triple-double against a top-10 opponent and eighth overall this season to help Oregon (26-2, 15-1 Pac-12) clinch at least a share of its third straight Pac-12 regular-season title.

"Incredible. I thought she was so poised and so heartfelt today,"

'That one was for [Kobe]. To do it on 2-24-20 was huge.'

Sabrina Ionescu

After reaching 2,000 points, 1,000 rebounds and 1,000 assists



said coach Kelly Graves, whose wife, Mary, accompanied Ionescu. "At her age and relative limited experience and things like that, I just thought she nailed it. It was amazing, and she wrote that, and that was from her. She's pretty special in more ways that just what you're seeing on the court."

Ionescu also had a triple-double Friday night at California while playing near her East Bay hometown of Walnut Creek, then delivered her eighth career road triple-double for the Ducks on an emotional day just hours after attending the service for Bryant and daughter, Gianna, in Southern California.

"I don't know many people that

could have done what she did today," Graves said. "... I knew this was the way it was going to end tonight for her. I'm glad that it ended in a victory but I knew that she was going to get that. It's so fitting that she did it tonight."

Hall of Fame Cardinal coach Tara VanDerveer wasn't surprised by Ionescu's toughness despite her difficult day.

"She's a player. I didn't expect anything different than what we saw," VanDerveer said.

She now has 2,467 points, 1,041 assists and 1,003 rebounds, helping the Ducks secure Monday at least 15 conference wins for a third consecutive season. Ionescu shot 9-47, missing her three three-point attempts. She had plenty of help from Satou Sabally, who scored 27 points on 10-for-17 shooting with four three-pointers.

"When she came back, we were there for her. It wasn't the easiest day, but she always has our backs so it was our turn to have her back," Sabally said. "We just lifted her up."

Golden State Warriors star Stephen Curry sat on the baseline supporting Ionescu and women's basketball for the second straight game she played in Northern California after he was in Berkeley with his two daughters Friday night. He watched Oregon run its winning streak to 14 in a row.

Top 25 roundup

No. 1 Jayhawks prevent letdown

Azubuike leads rout of Cowboys

Associated Press

said. "They have a really good team."

LAWRENCE, Kan. — When shots aren't falling early, Kansas can always rely on defense and Dokes.

Udoka Azubuike had 19 points and 16 rebounds, the Jayhawks shut down Oklahoma State long enough for their offense to come alive in the second half, and coach Bill Self's team rolled to an 83-58 victory over the Cowboys on Monday night to celebrate its return to the No. 1 ranking.

Devon Dotson added 11 points and Christian Braun and David McCormack had 10 apiece for Kansas (25-3, 14-1), whose victory over No. 2 Baylor over the weekend allowed the Jayhawks to retake the top spot in the AP poll. And the win over Oklahoma State (14-14, 4-11) gave Kansas a half-game lead over Bears in the race for the Big 12 title.

"It was kind of rough at first, you know, starting to get going," Jayhawks guard Ochai Agbaji said, "but the coaches, they did a good job of getting us pumped up for the game. We just had to come into this game with a lot more focus, because you have to finish out the rest of this conference season."

Dotson and fellow backcourt mate Marcus Garrett were a combined 5-20 from the field, but Azubuike and the rest of the team picked them up. Kansas has won five straight against the Cowboys and 22 of the last 24 games played against them in Allen Fieldhouse as it burnished its credentials for the No. 1 overall NCAA Tournament seeding.

"Damn, they're good," Oklahoma State coach Mike Boynton

said. Cameron McGriff led the Cowboys with 16 points, though most came with the game well out of reach. Isaac Likelele and Lindy Waters added 11 apiece as Oklahoma State was held to 39% shooting from the field.

No. 6 Florida State 82, No. 11 Louisville 67: Trent Forrest scored 14 of his 16 points after halftime, and the Seminoles rallied from a double-digit deficit to beat the visiting Cardinals.

FSU (24-4, 14-3 Atlantic Coast Conference) moved past Louisville into first place in the ACC. They lead the Cardinals (23-6, 14-4) and No. 7 Duke by a half-game.

Patrick Williams' thunderous dunk put an exclamation point to a 15-0 run that put the Seminoles ahead for good. Florida State outscored Louisville 50-27 in the second half and the Seminoles extended their home winning streak to 22 games.

Texas 67, No. 20 West Virginia 57: Andrew Jones scored 22 points to lead the injury-depleted Longhorns to a win at home over the Mountaineers.

Courtney Ramey added 21 points for Texas (17-11, 7-8 Big 12), which has won three in a row. West Virginia (19-9, 7-8) has lost six straight on the road in conference play.

The Mountaineers beat the Longhorns by 38 points back on Jan. 20, the worst loss of coach Shaka Smart's five years with the Longhorns. But West Virginia came limping into the rematch and Texas did not resemble the timid team that got pushed around in Morgantown.



ORLIN WAGNER/AP

Kansas center Udoka Azubuike, left, rebounds against Oklahoma State forward Kalib Boone. Azubuike had 19 points and 16 rebounds in the top-ranked Jayhawks' 83-58 win Monday at home.

NHL

Trade winds blow Hurricanes' way with three deals

By JOHN WAWROW
Associated Press

Hurricanes president Don Waddell resisted the urge to sign Zamboni driver David Ayres—or acquire anyone else, for that matter—to address Carolina's injury-depleted goaltending ranks before the NHL trade deadline struck Monday.

Waddell, however, did manage to upgrade the rest of his roster to better position his team in the tightly contested Metropolitan Division over the final six weeks of the season.

The Hurricanes acquired center Vincent Trocheck in a multi-player deal with Florida. And they bulked up their defense by adding Sami Vatanen from New Jersey and sending a first-round draft pick to land Brad Skjei from the New York Rangers.

"We believe in the guys that we had here, but we thought we needed to strengthen us at certain positions," Waddell said. "I think, overall, it's a strong message that we're here to win."

The Hurricanes weren't the only Metropolitan team making moves when just seven points separate the third-place Philadelphia Flyers and seventh-place Rangers.

The New York Islanders acquired Jean-Gabriel Pageau from the Ottawa Senators, and then signed the playmaking forward to a six-year contract extension.

Patrick Marleau is back in the Eastern Conference after the Pittsburgh Penguins acquired the 40-year-old in a trade with San Jose.

The Penguins then brought back forward Conor Sheary, a member of Pittsburgh's past two Stanley Cup winners, in a trade with Buffalo.

Overall, the 32 trades completed were the most on the NHL's final day of trading. And the 33 players dealt matched the record set on March 3, 2010.

And the two biggest deals that didn't happen involved Chris Kreider, who elected to re-sign with the New York Rangers, and Wild forward Zach Parise, who stayed put in Minnesota.

Kreider came off the market after signing a seven-year contract extension. With the Rangers having won 10 of 13 to climb into contention, general manager Jeff Gorton weighed the team's long- and short-term options as negotiations with Kreider came down to the wire.

"We're pretty happy with how we're playing. A lot of people have stepped up," Gorton said. "I think our job is to look big picture, too. I think you see that with Chris. We kept him as a Ranger."

As for Parise, Wild general manager Bill Guerin didn't go into detail in acknowledging he entertained trade talks involving the team's leading scorer.

"The fact that nothing happened today is fine," Guerin said.

In Carolina, Waddell has to be hoping the same when it comes to his goaltending. James Reimer (lower body) and Petr Mrazek (concussion) are considered week to week after both were hurt against Toronto last weekend. The injuries forced Carolina to turn to the 42-year-old Ayres, the emergency backup, who helped secure a 6-3 victory.

That leaves Carolina having to lean on minor-league callups Anton Forsberg and Alex Nedeljkovic in net for the near future at least.

"Wetalked about it, but we weren't going to spend many assets to try to get somebody to help us over the next few weeks," Waddell said. "Goonie, Elvis Merzlikins departed the second period following a jarring collision with former Jackets forward Anthony Duclair. Center Riley Nash also left in the second.

The team has been ravaged by injuries this year. Merzlikins was replaced by Joona Korpisalo, who was just activated after sitting out with a knee injury since Dec. 29.

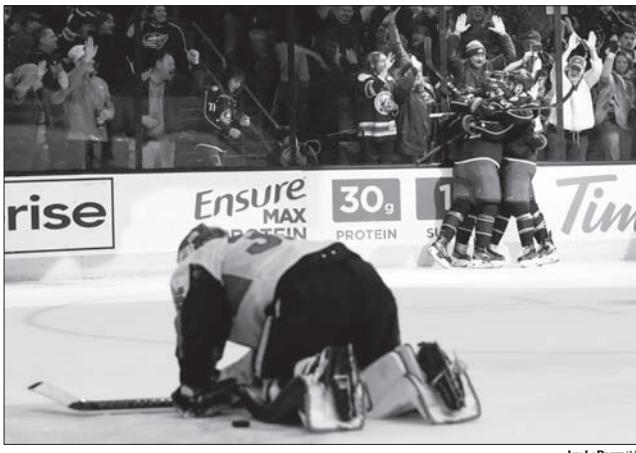
There was no word on the status of Merzlikins and Nash, but Columbus added goalie Mattias Kirvelioks to the roster on emergency recall from the team's AHL affiliate in Cleveland ahead of Tuesday's game at Minnesota.

"We have looked at this as a great opportunity," Blue Jackets coach John Tortorella said. "We lose a couple more guys tonight. It's just a great opportunity to define team and define not giving in."

■ Tampa Bay gave up a first-round pick to acquire right wing Barclay Goodrow from San Jose.

■ The Vegas Golden Knights shored up their leaky goaltending by acquiring Ryan Lehner in a trade with Chicago.

The Senators were in flux after



JAY LAPRETE/AP

Blue Jackets players celebrate their overtime 4-3 win Monday against the Senators in Columbus, Ohio.

Bemstrom's OT goal buoys Blue Jackets

By MITCH STACY
Associated Press

COLUMBUS, Ohio — The Columbus Blue Jackets ditched their eight-game losing streak — and lost two more players to injuries.

Emil Bemstrom scored 4:35 into overtime, and the banged-up Blue Jackets beat the Ottawa Senators 4-3 on Monday night.

Bemstrom knocked home a rebound for his seventh of the season. Nick Foligno scored twice for Columbus, and Stefan Matteau tied it with his second of the season midway through the third period.

But the Blue Jackets' first win since Feb. 7 might have been a costly one.

Goonie, Elvis Merzlikins departed the second period following a jarring collision with former Jackets forward Anthony Duclair. Center Riley Nash also left in the second.

The team has been ravaged by injuries this year. Merzlikins was replaced by Joona Korpisalo, who was just activated after sitting out with a knee injury since Dec. 29.

There was no word on the status of Merzlikins and Nash, but Columbus added goalie Mattias Kirvelioks to the roster on emergency recall from the team's AHL affiliate in Cleveland ahead of Tuesday's game at Minnesota.

"We have looked at this as a great opportunity," Blue Jackets coach John Tortorella said. "We lose a couple more guys tonight. It's just a great opportunity to define team and define not giving in."

"We don't have the big speeches; it's not us against the world, none of that (stuff) anymore," he added.

The Senators were in flux after

Scoreboard

Eastern Conference

	Atlantic Division						
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Boston	63	30	33	10	82	206	169
Tampa Bay	62	40	17	5	85	221	171
Toronto	63	32	23	8	72	220	210
Philadelphia	63	30	25	7	70	197	172
Buffalo	62	29	25	8	65	182	193
Montreal	64	29	27	8	64	195	194
NY Islanders	63	24	37	12	52	176	216
Detroit	64	15	45	4	34	139	240

Metropolitan Division

	Metropolitan Division						
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Washington	63	31	31	11	82	218	190
Pittsburgh	61	37	18	6	80	201	168
Philadelphia	63	32	20	7	77	206	183
New York Islanders	63	30	25	8	65	195	194
Carolina	61	31	19	4	74	166	166
Nashville	63	35	22	4	74	190	190
NY Rangers	63	24	41	12	44	103	150
New Jersey	61	27	27	10	58	167	170

Western Conference

	Central Division						
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
St. Louis	63	36	17	10	82	200	174
Colorado	61	35	18	9	73	212	166
Minnesota	63	20	43	7	47	154	154
Winnipeg	64	32	27	5	69	185	191
Ottawa	63	31	19	4	74	196	196
Minnesota	63	35	22	4	74	197	197
Chicago	62	27	27	8	52	187	210

Pacific Division

	Pacific Division						
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Vegas	64	31	33	10	76	208	196
Edmonton	63	33	22	6	73	200	174
Vancouver	62	22	40	6	46	187	197
Arizona	63	26	36	8	56	189	173
San Jose	62	36	24	4	74	195	196
Los Angeles	63	22	35	6	50	156	203

Point's game

	Point's game						
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Calgary at Boston	63	31	31	11	62	198	196
Dallas at Carolina	63	31	31	11	62	197	197
N.Y. Rangers at New Jersey	63	30	32	10	59	198	198
St. Louis at Minnesota	63	31	31	11	62	198	198
Edmonton at Los Angeles	63	32	29	12	64	200	197
Montreal at Vancouver	63	32	29	12	64	200	197
Edmonton at Anaheim	63	32	29	12	64	200	197

Sunday's game

	Sunday's game						
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Washington at Pittsburgh	63	31	31	11	62	198	196
Buffalo at Chicago	63	32	29	12	64	200	197
N.Y. Islanders at New Jersey	63	30	32	10	59	198	198
St. Louis at Minnesota	63	31	31	11	62	198	198
Edmonton at Los Angeles	63	32	29	12	64	200	197
Montreal at Vancouver	63	32	29	12	64	200	197
Edmonton at Anaheim	63	32	29	12	64	200	197

Wednesday's games

	Wednesday's games						
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Edmonton at Vegas	63	32	29	12	64	200	197
Pittsburgh at Los Angeles	63	31	31	11	62	198	196
N.Y. Rangers at Montreal	63	30	32	10	59	198	198
Toronto at Florida	63	31	31	11	62	198	198
Minnesota at Detroit	63	32	29	12	64	200	197
Columbus at Minnesota	63	31	31	11	62	198	198
Ottawa at Nashville	63	30	32	10	59	198	198
Edmonton at Anaheim	63	32	29	12	64	200	197

Thursday's games

	Thursday's games						
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Chicago at Tampa Bay	63	31	31	11	62	198	196
N.Y. Rangers at Montreal	63	30	32	10	59	198	198
Toronto at Florida	63	31	31	11	62	198	198
Minnesota at Detroit	63	32	29	12	64	200	197
Columbus at Minnesota	63	31	31	11	62	198	198
Ottawa at Nashville	63	30	32	10	59	198	198
Edmonton at Anaheim	63	32	29	12	64	200	197

Friday's games

	Friday's games						
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Calgary at St. Louis	63	31	31	11	62	198	196
Edmonton at Tampa Bay	63	32	29	12	64	200	197
N.Y. Islanders at Philadelphia	63	31	31	11	62	198	198
Toronto at Tampa Bay	63	30	32	10	59	198	198
New Jersey at Detroit	63	31	31	11	62	198	198
Columbus at Minnesota	63	30	32	10	59	198	198
Ottawa at Nashville	63	31	31	11	62	198	198
Edmonton at Anaheim	63	32	29	12	64	200	197

Saturday's games

	Saturday's games						
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Chicago at Tampa Bay	63	31	31	11	62	198	196
N.Y. Rangers at Montreal	63	30	32	10	59	198	198
Toronto at Florida	63	31	31	11	62	198	198
Minnesota at Detroit	63	32	29	12	64	200	197
Columbus at Minnesota	63	31	31	11	62	198	198
Ottawa at Nashville	63	30	32	10	59	198	198
Edmonton at Anaheim	63	32	29	12	64	200	197

Sunday's games

	Sunday's games						
	GP	W	L				

NHL

Record: To catch Gretzky, Ovechkin must stay healthy

FROM BACK PAGE

Gretzky scored his 894 goals in 1,487 games over a 20-year career with the Edmonton Oilers, Los Angeles Kings, St. Louis Blues and New York Rangers. A vast majority of his goals came during the sport's highest-scoring era, and Gretzky reached 40 in a season for the last time at age 30.

Ovechkin is in the midst of his fifth 40-goal season since turning 30. Last season, he became the oldest to win the goal-scoring title since

'I think he'll score 50 until he's 50 years old, it seems like.'

Nathan MacKinnon
Colorado forward
Forwards old, it
on Alex Ovechkin
Colorado Av-

alanche forward Nathan MacKinnon said, "I never thought [catching Gretzky] would happen. I hope he can get close."

Ovechkin is under contract through next season and would likely need to play four more seasons to take a legitimate shot at the milestone. Longtime running mate Nicklas Backstrom just signed on for five more years, so it's not impossible to think Ovechkin stays around long term.

Asked what Ovechkin needs to do to approach Gretzky's record, Esposito said: "Stay with the Washington Capitals. Stay with a good team."

Gretzky recently told NHL.com he's rooting for Ovechkin to break his record, with staying healthy and playing on a good team the two necessary ingredients. Ovechkin has been one of the most durable players in hockey during his career, and the Capitals could extend their run of contending for several more years.

"The guy's missed 17 games in 15 years due to injury — that's freaking incredible," former NHL Network analyst Brian Lawton said. "They have a quality team that has staying power. He's going to get three or four more years of being on an elite team."

Backstrom, center Evgeny Kuznetsov and defenseman John Carlson are all signed long term after winning the Stanley Cup with Ovechkin in 2018. Wrapping up his playing days back home in Russia could be alluring to Ovechkin, so it's unclear how many more years he wants to remain in the NHL.

"It just depends on how long he wants to play," said Winnipeg Jets goaltender Connor Hellebuyck, who allowed Ovechkin's 600th goal. "You know he's going to put up anywhere from 40 to 50 goals a year, and he's going to be dangerous no matter what his age is or what his team's like. You know he's got a phenomenal team around him."

Ovechkin wasn't always scoring at this pace. At the low point of his career, he scored 32 goals in 2010-11 and 38 in 2011-12 before Washington bowed out in the second round of the playoffs.

"I think everyone halfway through his career would've said, no, he's going to tail off at some point," Calgary Flames captain Mark Giordano said. "But he hasn't stopped, so he has a chance."

Lawton has run the numbers and can't imagine Ovechkin not breaking Gretzky's record. He's conservatively predicting a 55-goal season, which would mean Ovechkin at his career rate needs to play roughly 300 more games to get close.

"Alex is in a completely different position (than Gretzky)," Lawton said. "Back then, players, we didn't know and understand as much about nutrition and training as we do today ... Overall, looking in the future, I just don't see there's any way he how he doesn't break it."

Boston's David Pastrnak, who is currently neck-and-neck with Ovechkin and Toronto's Auston Matthews in the goal-scoring race and might one day be the NHL's next 700-goal scorer, "can't really see" Gretzky's record being broken. Pastrnak thinks Ovechkin will join Gretzky and Gordie Howe by surpassing 800, though Bruins coach Bruce Cassidy wonders about the goals beyond that.

"I think health-wise will determine that," Cassidy said. "If he can stay healthy to at least 38, I don't see why he won't at least push up against it."

By the numbers

894

700

5

Record for career goals, set by Wayne Gretzky with four teams over 20 seasons.

Number of goals Alex Ovechkin has scored over 15 seasons with the Capitals.

Number of seasons in which Ovechkin has scored 40 goals since turning 30.



JOHN MINCHILLO/AP

The Pittsburgh Penguins acquired left wing Patrick Marleau from the San Jose Sharks for a conditional draft pick. The struggling Sharks get a 2021 third-round pick from the Penguins for Marleau that becomes a second-rounder if Pittsburgh wins the Stanley Cup this year.

Trades add to arms race in Metropolitan Division

BY STEPHEN WHYNO
Associated Press

The Metropolitan Division was already the deepest and most competitive in the NHL.

Now the race to the finish is getting juiced up.

Nearly every Metro contender made a move ahead of Monday's trade deadline to gear up for the play-off push. The first-place Washington Capitals got it started by acquiring Ilya Kovalchuk, Pittsburgh answered by getting fellow veteran winger Patrick Marleau from San Jose and the New York Islanders got a major reinforcement in the form of center Jean-Gabriel Pageau, who they signed to a \$30 million, six-year extension.

And those teams weren't alone. Carolina got immediate help by trading for forward Vincent Trocheck and defenseman Brady Skjei and Sami Vatanen; Philadelphia made two depth forward moves by getting Derek Grant and Nate Thompson; and the Columbus Blue Jackets traded once-promising prospect Sonny Milano to Anaheim for forward Devin Shore.

Even the New York Rangers, whose recent hot streak put them within striking distance of a play-off position, kept forward Chris Kreider in the fold with a seven-year extension rather than dealing him away.

"Metro was pretty active," Capitals general manager Brian MacLellan said. "It is a tough division. Each team could beat the other team on any given night, you know, given good goaltending and I think every one of these teams thinks that they have a chance to come out of the Metro, which I believe they do."

With seven teams in contention for four or five play-off spots, the arms race is on.

"I thought we were all pretty close going into it and now I think we're all still close, only better teams," MacLellan said. "I think everybody did a good job in our division, and it's going to be hard to get out of it."

The Islanders traded conditional first- and third-round picks and a second to Ottawa for Pageau, who could be an ideal fit by adding offense. The Islanders rank 22nd in the league in goals per game, which probably won't cut it when trying to compete with



GRAHAM HUGHES, THE CANADIAN PRESS/AP

The Washington Capitals, in first place in the Metropolitan Division, acquired Ilya Kovalchuk from Montreal before the trade deadline.

the high-scoring Capitals, Penguins and Flyers.

"You always have to wait and see," Islanders GM Lou Lamoriello said. "Sometimes I've seen the smallest move make a major difference."

Washington and Pittsburgh each spent only a third-round pick to get a veteran looking to win the Stanley Cup for the first time. Kovalchuk joins a potent attack led by fellow Russians Alex Ovechkin and Evgeny Kuznetsov, and Marleau will be a sentimental favorite with Sidney Crosby and the Penguins.

Carolina paid the price of two roster players and two prospects for Trocheck, who has two more years left on his contract. Then, the Hurricanes strengthened their blue line amid injuries to Dougie Hamilton and Brett Pesce by getting Skjei and Vatanen.

GM Chuck Fletcher said the Flyers "stuck to our plan" amid all the moves around the division.

Forwards Derek Grant and Nate Thompson are perfect for the Flyers' mold as big, tough competitors who provide some needed depth. With Pageau's price tag set so high, Philadelphia gave up only two fifth-round picks and a prospect to solve their need for centers and add size.

HIGH SCHOOL/OLYMPICS

Air, rail travel halted for DODEA Japan teams

BY DAVE ORNAUER
Stars and Stripes

Air and train travel by DODEA Japan sports teams to games in March has been canceled by the district, citing "growing concern across the Pacific region" over the coronavirus, the district said Tuesday.

"After careful consideration, we have made the difficult decision to halt air and rail travel during the month of March" to sports events, DODEA Japan chief of staff Wendy Cooley said in a statement.

School administrators, athletics directors and coaches are "scrambling" to reschedule the DODEA Japan spring sports schedule on short notice, Matthew C. Perry boys soccer coach Mark Lange said.

The schools affected most are the ones at the farthest ends of two of Japan's main islands, Robert D. Edgren on Misawa Air Base, 430 miles north of Tokyo in north-

ern Honshu, and E.J. King at Sasebo Naval Base, 750 miles southwest of Tokyo near the southern tip of Kyushu.

"We're just trying to figure it out," King athletics director Ricky Andrew said.

The first trips affected were scheduled for March 13-14, when Edgren's baseball and softball teams were to fly to Perry and King's track and field team to Yokota.

The next weekend, King's baseball and softball teams were to fly to Yokota, and on March 27-28, Edgren's soccer teams were headed to Perry.

Andrew and officials at Edgren said they hope the competitions affected by the air/rail cancellation can be relocated to schools closer to them.

Cooley said that was one option being considered but the well-being of student-athletes and their families "is our top priority."

"While participation in athletic events

are among the highlights of the high school experience for many of our students, traveling to these events by air or rail may present an additional risk due to the large number of people in close contact," the statement said.

Travel by bus to competitions appears to be safe for the moment.

Tryouts for spring sports are expected to begin Saturday as scheduled in all DODEA districts, DODEA Pacific athletics coordinator Tom McKinney said Tuesday.

DODEA schools on bases in South Korea have been shuttered through the end of the week due to coronavirus concerns, command and DODEA Korea officials said Monday. Students there are taking online classes.

DODEA Pacific announced that its regional junior science and humanities symposium scheduled for March 16-17 at Kadena Air Base, Okinawa, will go on as

scheduled but will be an online event, said Todd Schlitz, the agency's chief of staff.

Schlitz said no decision has been made yet on whether the Far East honors music festival at Yokota High School and the Far East creative expressions in Tokyo, both in late April, will go on as scheduled.

Organizers of the Perry Cup soccer tournament scheduled for March 20-21 at Perry High School and Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni said a handful of schools have pulled out due to the coronavirus scare, but they hope to continue with the five teams they have left.

The 15th Mike Petty Memorial Track and Field Meet scheduled for April 3 at Kubasaki High School will go on as scheduled, but only with Okinawa-based teams, organizers said.

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IOC senior member: 3 months to decide fate of Olympics

BY STEPHEN WADE
Associated Press

TOKYO — Dick Pound, the longest-serving member of the IOC, estimates there's a three-month window to decide the fate of the Tokyo Olympics, which are being threatened by the fast-spreading virus from China.

Pound, in an exclusive interview with Associated Press, did not sound alarmist. But he did speak frankly about the risks facing the Olympics, which are scheduled to open July 24.

Pound has been an International Olympic Committee member since 1978, 13 years longer than current President Thomas Bach.

"You could certainly go to two months out if you had to," Pound said, which would mean putting off a decision until late May and hoping the virus is under control. "A lot of things have to start happening. You've got to start ramping up your security, your food, the Olympic Village, the hotels. The media folks will be in there building their studios."

And if it got to the point of not going ahead, Pound speculated "you're probably looking at a cancellation."

"This is the new war and you have to face it. In and around that time, I'd say folks are going to have to ask: 'Is this the under sufficient control that we can be confident about going to Tokyo, or not?'"

China on Tuesday reported 508 new cases and another 71 deaths, 68 of them in the central city of Wuhan, where the epidemic was first detected in December. The updates bring mainland China's totals to 77,658 cases and 2,663 deaths. South Korea has the second-most cases in the world with 977, including 10 deaths. Clusters of the illness are now appearing

in the Middle East and Europe. This could signal a new stage in the spread of the virus with four deaths reported in Japan.

Pound encouraged athletes to keep training. About 11,000 are expected for the Olympics, and another 4,400 for the Paralympics, which open on Aug. 25.

"As far as we all know you're going to be in Tokyo," Pound said. "All indications are at this stage that it will be business as usual. So keep focused on your sport and be sure that the IOC is not going to send you into a pandemic situation."

The modern Olympics dating from 1896 have only been cancelled during wartime, and faced boycotts in 1976 in Montreal, in 1980 in Moscow and 1984 in Los Angeles — all in Pound's memory.

The Olympics in 1940 were to be in Tokyo, but were called off because of Japan's war with China and World War II.

Pound called uncertainty a major problem and repeated the IOC's stance—that it's depending on consultations with the World Health Organization, a United Nations body, to make any move. So far, the Games are on.

"It's a big, big, big decision and you just can't take it until you have reliable facts on which to base it," Pound said. He said whatever advice the IOC is now getting, "it doesn't call for cancellation or postponement of the Olympics. You just don't postpone something on the size and scale of the Olympics. You just don't postpone anything on the size and scale of the Olympics. There's so many moving parts, so many countries and different seasons, and competitive seasons, and television seasons. You can't just say, 'we'll do it in October.'

If changes have to be made, Pound said every option faced obstacles.



Two people wear masks as they visit the newly opened Japan Olympic Museum located near the New National Stadium, on Sunday in Tokyo.

"It's a big, big, big decision and you just can't take it until you have reliable facts on which to base it."

Dick Pound
IOC member since 1978

Pound said moving to another city seemed unlikely.

"To move the place is difficult because there are few places in the world that could think of gearing up facilities in that short time to put something on," Pound said.

London mayoral candidate Shaun Bailey has suggested the British capital as an alternative. Tokyo Gov. Yuriko Koike suggested that was an inappropriate offer, using the virus as political campaign fodder.

Pound said he would not favor a dispersal of events over various venues because that wouldn't "constitute an Olympic Games. You'd end up with a series of world championships." He said it would be very difficult to spread around all these sports in a 17-day period with only a few month's notice.

Staying in Tokyo but moving it back a few months would be unlikely to satisfy North American broadcasters, whose schedules

are full in the fall with American football, college football, European soccer, basketball, baseball, and ice hockey. Of course, other world broadcasters also have jammed schedules.

"It would be tough to get the kind of blanket coverage that people expect around the Olympic Games," Pound said. "It's certainly tougher than it would have been in 1964 in Tokyo when you didn't have the saturation sports schedule on television."

How about delaying for a year, but staying in Tokyo? Japan is officially spending \$12.6 billion to organize the Olympics, although a national audit board says the country is spending twice that much.

"Then you have to ask if you can hold the bubble together for an extra year," Pound said. "Then of course you have to fit all of this into the entire international sports schedule."

Pound said the IOC has been building up an "emergency fund" for such circumstances, reported to be about \$1 billion. That could fund international sports federations who depend on income from the IOC to operate — and the IOC itself.

"This would be what you normally call a force majeure," said Pound, a Canadian lawyer by training, using the legal phrase for "unforeseeable circumstances."

"It's not an insurable risk and it's not one that can be attributed to one or the other of the parties. So everybody takes their lumps. There would be a lack of revenue on the Olympic Movement side."

He said broadcasters may have their own insurance that would "mitigate some of the losses."

About 73% of the IOC's \$5.7 billion income in a four-year Olympic cycle is from broadcast rights.

Pound said the future of the Tokyo Games was largely out of the IOC's hands, depending on the virus and if it abets.

"If it gets to be something like the Spanish Flu," Pound said, referring to a deadly pandemic early in the 20th century that killed millions. "At that level of lethality, then everybody's got to take their medicine."

MLB



FRANK FRANKLIN II/AP

Houston Astros second baseman Jose Altuve reacts after hitting an RBI double during the third inning in an 11-1 spring training defeat of the Detroit Tigers on Monday in Lakeland, Fla. Altuve was booed in his first spring appearance and was later grazed by a pitch.

Altuve booed, grazed by pitch, in his spring debut

Associated Press

LAKELAND, Fla. — Jose Altuve insisted he tuned out the hecklers. He couldn't avoid a pitch that grazed him.

"He was hit in the foot. That ain't nothing, you know what I mean?" Houston Astros manager Dusty Baker said Monday after an 11-1 win over Detroit at half-empty Joker Marchant Stadium. "It wasn't intentional."

Altuve was loudly booed when he was introduced for his spring training debut, cheered when he struck out and called a cheater by several fans.

Quite a difference from past years, when the diminutive All-Star second baseman was among the most popular players in the majors.

But that was before Altuve and his Houston teammates were implicated in the sign-stealing scandal that's rocked baseball.

"We just heard a lot of noise, and that's it," Altuve said.

Altuve and fellow starters Alex Bregman, Carlos Correa and Yuli Gurriel all played for the first time in the exhibition season. After Houston opened the Grapefruit League in the stadium it shares with the World Series champion Washington Nationals, this was the first time the Astros were away from their complex — providing a taste of the reaction they might receive on the road this year.

"We were focused on playing baseball. We know that we need to go on the field and get ready and go for the coming season,"

Altuve said. "That's what we're thinking about right now."

Actually, the reception during the visit to Tigertown USA in Lakeland, Fla., was fairly tame compared to what it figures to be during the regular season.

Early arrivals in the announced crowd of 4,891 were discouraged by ushers from gathering near the Astros dugout unless they had box seats along the third base line.

Hecklers aired their voices after batting practice, boozing during introduction of lineups and each time Altuve, Bregman, Correa and Gurriel stepped up to the plate. Altuve got some cheers, too, when he was charged with an error for dropping a throw by Bregman from third base on a force play.

The quartet was treated to one more round of boos when they left the game and made the long walk up the first base line to the visiting clubhouse.

Altuve took a third called strike to a round of cheers in his first at-bat, then lined a crowd-quelling RBI double into the left-field corner his next time up.

Altuve showed no signs of being upset when he was grazed with a pitch by Tigers reliever Nick Ramirez after the batter before him, Myles Straw, homered in the fifth inning.

The 2017 AL MVP was replaced by a pinch runner.

Baker planned to play Altuve, Bregman, Correa and Gurriel no more than five innings anyway in Houston's first true road exhibition since a Major League

baseball investigation found the Astros broke rules by illegally stealing signs during their championship season in 2017.

Earlier, Detroit's starting pitcher Matthew Boyd, who fanned Altuve in the first inning, said it wasn't difficult to block out the boozing and heckling and remained focused on playing the game.

"It's spring training. Honestly, let's let it die. What's done is done. I know how everybody feels, but no one is going to change anything now," Boyd said. "The punishment's been handed out, the line's been drawn in the sand. Hopefully that shuts it down, and it's just best for everyone to move forward. They've got to live with it. That's more than enough punishment."

Cole's debut

Gerrit Cole struck out two and walked one in a hitless inning in his spring training debut for the New York Yankees against Pittsburgh.

Cole's first pitch to Adam Frazier was a 97 mph fastball. After Frazier popped out and Bryan Reynolds struck out, Cole Tucker drew a walk. The right-hander then fanned Josh Bell to finish up.

The game ended in a 3-3 tie after nine innings.

Cole signed a \$324 million, nine-year contract as a free agent after going 20-5 with a 2.50 ERA and 326 strikeouts last season for the AL champion Houston Astros.

Bloom forced to adapt quickly with Red Sox

BY JIMMY GOLEN
Associated Press

FORT MYERS, Fla. — This isn't quite how Chaim Bloom imagined things would go, back when he dreamed of running a baseball team.

Less than two months after taking over the Red Sox — and with the start of spring training looming — Boston's new chief baseball officer needed to replace a World Series-winning manager. Then Bloom incurred the wrath of the Fenway fans when he traded Mookie Betts, the ballclub's best player, as part of a salary dump. And the team is still sweating out the results of an investigation into whether it cheated when it won the championship in 2018.

"Baseball will throw different things at you every day," he said last week as he settled into his first spring training with the Red Sox. "I've been in baseball long enough to know that there's a lot of things about this business that don't go according to plan, and it throws you a lot of unexpected surprises. So the fact that there were those surprises didn't catch me off guard. But it was — obviously, especially within the last month — a lot more than I thought I'd be dealing with when I got here."

A 36-year-old Yale classics major who started as a Baseball Prospectus intern and worked his way up the Rays masthead, Bloom was brought to Boston to transform the front office from the free-spending, win-now ways of Dave Dombrowski to a smart-spending and sustainable organization like Tampa's.

He already knew the Red Sox were trying to shed salary to get under baseball's collective bargaining tax threshold: offloading Betts, the 2018 AL MVP, would be one way to do that. But Bloom figured to have all offseason to get comfortable in his new job, build relationships in and outside of Fenway Park, and explore his options.

Then manager Alex Cora was ousted as a result of the Houston Astros' sign-stealing scandal; instead of the methodical managerial search Bloom might have imagined, he had to navigate the wrong part of the baseball calendar and steer clear of the still-ongoing Major League Baseball investigation into whether Boston's 2018 championship was tainted by similar cheating schemes.

Anyone who was on the Red Sox staff was suspect, so promoting from within brought the danger that the new manager might be punished and leave Bloom looking for yet another replacement.

"That process was very unusual just because of the circumstances, the timing," Bloom conceded.

But the sudden frenzy of activity was "energizing. And it has been since Day 1."

"We've got a big challenge ahead of us, obviously," he said.

You know, a lot of people care about what happens to this team and we want to make sure we're doing everything we can to make them happy.

Chaim Bloom
Red Sox chief baseball officer

"You know, a lot of people care about what happens to this team and we want to make sure we're doing everything we can to make them happy."

While still without a manager, Bloom closed the deal that would send Betts to the Los Angeles Dodgers along with pitcher David Price for outfielder Alex Verdugo and a package of prospects. (A first iteration of the deal fell through when Boston balked at the medical problems on pitcher Brusdar Graterol, who would be coming over from the Twins.) The Red Sox saved about \$75 million in the deal.

The reaction back home was ... not good.

That, Bloom was prepared for. "When you're in a place like Boston, the Red Sox matter so much to so many people," he said. "That certainly adds to the amount of eyeballs watching the team. It adds to the amount of excitement surrounding the team. But the mission stays the same. And I don't think we could possibly care more than we already do."

"To me, it just makes it exciting that so many people are interested, that they want the team to do well. They care about what you're doing," Bloom said.

With the MLB cheating probe stalled on the eve of spring training, Bloom couldn't wait any longer, promoting bench coach Ron Roenicke to interim manager; the temporary tag would disappear if the former Brewers skipper is cleared. Bloom knew people were watching how he handled his first big decisions — not just those around baseball, but within the Red Sox organization.

"Whether you've been on the job for a day or 10 years, people are always going to look to you," he said. "There's no question, you're very conscious in a job like this or in any leadership role how the people you work with are keying off of what you give them."

Bloom has been in charge less than four months. He hasn't found a home in Boston yet. His family is still living in Florida.

And he's already made two big decisions that will go a long way toward establishing his legacy in a city where his three predecessors all won a World Series — or two — and still left under unfavorable terms.

SPORTS



No letdown

No. 1 Kansas routs Oklahoma State
College basketball, Page 19



JOHN DUNN / AP

Wayne Gretzky has the record for career goals, scoring 894 over his 20-year career.

NHL

Chasing Gretzky

Can Ovechkin overtake his goals record?

BY STEPHEN WHYNO
Associated Press

Alex Ovechkin is making the seemingly impossible appear to be not so far-fetched after all. Wayne Gretzky's 894 career goals has, for decades, loomed as one of hockey's most untouchable records. The "Great One" set the bar so high it appeared out of reach for even the NHL's best scorers.

Ovechkin, on Saturday, became the second-

fastest and second-youngest player to reach 700 goals behind only Gretzky. Because he's only 34 and shows no signs of slowing down, belief is growing that Ovechkin can challenge Gretzky's mark.

"Alex is going to score another probably 150 goals, maybe more, before he retires," Hall of Famer and fellow 700 goal-scorer Phil Esposito said. "He's got a chance to catch Wayne. There's no doubt about that."

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- Metropolitan competitors beef up rosters, Page 21
- Bemstrom lifts Blue Jackets in overtime, Page 20
- Canes make 3 deals at trade deadline, Page 20

Washington Capitals left wing Alex Ovechkin has only missed 17 games due to injury during his 15-year career. If he stays healthy, he could challenge Gretzky's goal-scoring record.

NICK WASS / AP



Altuve grazed by pitch in spring debut

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High school, Page 22



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